

## Storm over 'crooked councillors' attack in Clay Cross debate

Conservatives yesterday launched a Commons attack on the Government's proposal to remove qualifications against local councillors who refused to implement the Housing Finance Act, 1972. Mr Anthony Kershaw, Tory MP for Stroud, referred to "Bills of Indemnity" apparently being brought in "for crooked councillors". To Labour protests, he retorted: "If it is thought undesirable to call them crooked, I call them criminal instead."

### New attempt to repay unions £10m

Mr Dennis Skinner, Labour MP for Bolsover, whose brother was leader of the Labour councillors at Clay Cross, challenged Mr Kershaw to say the same thing outside the House. Mr Kershaw, the Speaker, said he regretted such an imputation against any bodies inside or outside the House but his jurisdiction was in the House only. What Mr Kershaw had said was not out of order. Mr Kershaw, who remained defiant, said he would not be deterred from his course. "If it is thought undesirable to call them crooked, I call them criminal instead." That led to more protests from Labour, and Mr Neil Kinnock, Labour MP for Bedwelly, objected to an amendment that some of his constituents were councillors, and who included justices of the peace, were guilty of a crime when they were not. He asked whether there was any rule about what MPs could call people who were not guilty of any crime. The Speaker appealed for calm but did not revise his earlier ruling. It was obvious that the Conservatives were not willing to let the matter drop.

## New blows for Republicans at state level

The Democrats' victory in the United States dug deeper as the results of state legislature elections came in. The Republicans were left with control in only five of the 50 states, compared with 16 after the 1972 elections. It was their worst performance since 1938. Senate results were still being awaited in North Dakota, Oklahoma and New Hampshire, where there were recounts. There was another close race for the governorship of Alaska, where the counts from far-flung villages were still to come in. Page 8

## Sir Alec will return to the Lords as a life peer

Sir Alec Douglas-Home is to return to the House of Lords as a life peer, 11 years after renouncing his hereditary peerage as the Earl of Home when he became Prime Minister. Sir Alec said last night that he had accepted Mr Wilson's invitation to become a life peer because "I was pretty clear that I could go on being useful for a time". Page 2

## Doctors' ultimatum

An uneasy truce in which hospital consultants have given the Government three weeks to change their proposed new contract so that it gives them more independence was reached in three-hour talks between the profession and Mrs Castle, Secretary of State for Social Services, yesterday. Page 2

Features, pages 12, 16 Henry Stanhope says there is still the hope to the lid off Ulster; Jo Beresford suggests that the United States is happy to be forced into détente with Cuba. Page 16 Waterbury Down: Richard Adams on the difficulty of following a best seller. Page 12 Diary: How much of the truth about a news story do the newspapers print? Page 16 Obituary, page 18 Mr Eric Linklater; Mr John Farrar. Arts, page 13 David Robinson reviews Bill Douglas's two films about his childhood, and John Higgins the new non-romantic treatment of *Tales of Hoffmann* at the Paris Opéra. Page 17 Letters: On the shortage of British doctors in the NHS, from the National Association of

## Four die in London blast

Four people were killed and a number injured when a bomb exploded last night in the King's Arms public house near Woolwich Barracks, south London. The casualties were taken to Brook General Hospital, Shooter's Hill.

## Power station hit

One of Britain's newest and most efficient power stations is not operating at peak capacity because of a severe shortage of railway wagons. Aberthaw B station near Cardiff has been hit by coal deliveries being restricted because of the sudden revival of coal's fortunes in the wake of the oil crisis, and the resulting increased demand for specialized rolling stock. However, electricity supply chiefs are still optimistic of surviving the winter without power cuts in view of their performance during the coldest October in half a century. Page 19

## Science: Development of method for screening large populations for genetic disorders

Page 2

## Crime rate: Professor says judicial system may break down if wrong approach is taken to youth and violence

Page 3

## Price-fix warning: The Government would not hesitate to back voluntary price-cutting in shops with statutory powers if necessary, retailers were told yesterday

Page 5

## Watergate: The trial judge is to consider taking Mr Nixon's evidence on film in California

Page 8

## Greece: The question of whether King Constantine should return as monarch becomes an election issue

Page 8

## Moscow: China calls for non-aggression treaty in conciliatory message sent to Russia on anniversary of revolution

Page 9

## Derbyshire: Two-page Special Report giving a portrait of the county and the tasks facing it today.

Page 15

## Clinical Tutors: on upholding the rule of law, from the President of the Law Society. Leading articles: Peking and Moscow; Foreign doctors in the NHS; South Africa.

Page 21

## Business News: Rumours of an impending rights issue from a major company helped unsettle equities yesterday. The FT ordinary share index ended 4.2 down at 191.3. Pages 24, 27

Financial Editor: Boots' profits under pressure; Hoover's poor third quarter; muted optimism at Debenhams. Page 21

## Business features: Industry's case for a relaxation of price controls, by Tim Congdon; Adrienne Gleeson on the thinking behind the bid for FMC. Page 21

Business Diary: Pre-packed meals—the answer to building workers' health problems? Jensen sales drive in Japan. Page 21

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## Issue of cheap beef opens within month

Plans to enable 8,500,000 old pensioners and other needy to get 40p worth of beef at half-price through the winter go out to post offices within month, Mr Peart, Minister of Agriculture, said yesterday. Most pensioners will be able to collect them at post offices from the week beginning November 25, and the scheme will be in force on December 1, he said in a Commons reply. The issue of the beef will be for an 18-week period up to the end of March, he said. The beef can be used for beef and provided at least another 40p worth of the estimated £30m cost of the scheme will be from EEC funds. An amendment that the scheme will only strengthen the overall supply of beef and veal and ease the current difficulties in the beef market, Mr Peart said. The scheme was first set up by the EEC in July, it led certain classes of old pensioners but Mr Peart had permission for the United Kingdom to apply it to pensioners. The change was made on condition that instead of paying the cost the EEC would pay two fifths. The scheme means that well-off pensioners, as well as the needy, will get cheap beef at a cost to the Government of £3m. Parliamentary Correspondent: Mr Peart and his men from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries came to Commons yesterday with reported intention of clearing up all the uncertainties and over sugar shortages and surpluses. But at the end of minutes of intense and angry hounding from all parts of the House it seemed clear that Mr Peart did not understand what was going on or that he was unable to come up with any solutions to the beef and sugar crises.

## Mrs Thatcher to help shadow Chancellor in Tory reshuffle

By George Clark Political Correspondent After much delay, Mr Heath last night produced a surprisingly small list of Shadow Cabinet changes and immediately revived speculation about his future as Leader of the Conservative Party. It is clear that in spite of his efforts to do so, the Leader of the Opposition has been unable to broaden the base of his Shadow Cabinet or to win over his critics. The reshuffling of all the retiring members of the 1972 Cabinet executive, after all the criticisms levelled at them and their chairman, Mr Edward du Cann, by Mr Heath's supporters, must be taken as a clear warning that the question of changing the system for electing and confirming in office the party leader is now considered to be a matter of great importance by the broad base of the party. The Shadow Cabinet changes: Mrs Margaret Thatcher, formerly shadow Minister for the Environment and Housing, is to become number two to Mr Robert Carr, the shadow Chancellor, with special responsibility for financial legislation and public expenditure. Mr Geoffrey Rippon who, in the last Conservative government, was responsible for negotiating the terms of entry into the European Economic Community, succeeds Sir Alec Douglas-Home as shadow Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary. His appointment is a recognition of the importance of having a strong spokesman in the Commons to face Mr Callaghan.



Mrs Thatcher, who is to assist Mr Carr in Treasury and economic affairs in the Shadow Cabinet, eating her packed lunch at the Institute of Directors' annual conference yesterday. Conference reports, pages 19 and 22.

Mr Paul Channon, formerly shadow Minister for Consumer Affairs, is to take over the environment portfolio from Mrs Thatcher with the exception of housing, which will now be the special responsibility of Mr Nicholas Scott, MP for Kensington and Chelsea. Mr Timothy Easton, MP for Northampton, assumes responsibility for consumer affairs and prices. Mr Norman St John-Stevas, who has led for the Opposition on education, has been asked to assume responsibility also for the arts. One reason given last night for the delay in issuing the list was that Mr Heath had found it difficult to make contact with MPs involved. In view of the remarkable brevity of the list, that seemed an unconvincing explanation. What is more, some Conservative MPs were baffled by Mr Heath's inability to name the second rank of frontbench spokesmen, where more than 18 jobs are at his disposal. In normal circumstances there would be great competition among backbenchers to be chosen for one of these posts as the first rung on the ladder to ministerial office. But on this occasion Mr Heath has said that he will not be able to complete these appointments until next Monday at the earliest. Mr Heath has apparently antagonized many of the second-rank spokesmen who served him well on the front bench in the last Parliament by leaving them in suspense and telling them that in future he will bring backbenchers on to the front bench on an ad hoc basis according to the subject being debated. That has left many aspiring MPs in a state of uncertainty and confusion. The full list of the Shadow Cabinet, which is increased in size from 21 to 22, is as follows: Mr Heath, leader of the party; Mr Teyton, shadow Leader of the House; Mr Fym, agriculture; Mr Raison, consumer affairs; Mr P. Walker, defence; Mr St John-Stevas, education and the arts; Mr Prior, employment; Mr P. Jenkin, energy; Mr Channon, environment; Mr N. Scott, housing; Mr Rippon, foreign and commonwealth affairs; Sir Keith Joseph, home affairs; Mr Heseltine, industry and trade; Mr Gilmour, Northern Ireland; Mr Buchanan-Smith, Scotland; Sir Geoffrey Howe, social services; Mr Carr, Treasury and economic affairs; Mrs Thatcher, financial affairs and public expenditure; Mr P. Thomas, Wales; Lord Carrington, leader of the Opposition peers; Mr Whitlaw, chairman of the party (devolution); and Lord Railsham of St Marylebone, shadow minister without specific duties. In the 1972 committee election the two vice-chairmen, Sir John Hall and Mr Charles Morrison, successfully resisted the challenge of Sir John Edeu and Mr Cranley Onslow. The treasurer, Mr Godman Irvine, defeated his challenger, Mr Peter Blaker. Sir Geoffrey Howe's call, page 4

## Mr Ford's error on energy post

From Frank Vogl US Economics Correspondent Washington, Nov 7 President Ford nominated Mr Andrew Gibson to become head of the Federal Energy Administration without having had the usual background checks made, the White House admitted today. This error could well start a new and damaging controversy over the President's judgment in personnel matters, as Mr Gibson is still receiving cash payments from the oil company he left last May. Mr Ron Nessen, the chief White House spokesman, stated

that the usual checks had not been made because the President wanted urgently to replace Mr John Sawhill as head of the energy agency. The spokesman did not challenge *The New York Times* report today asserting that Mr Gibson received a severance contract from the Interstate Oil Company of Philadelphia guaranteeing him \$100,000 (over £40,000) a year for 10 years. Mr Nessen said the President was not withdrawing his nomination of Mr Gibson. However, in a comment that indicates that the President was backing away from this appointment, he noted that it was up to Congress alone to determine whether Mr Gibson should become the new chief of the agency. *The New York Times* report will be seized upon by many in Congress who have been highly critical in the past of White House energy policies, and who have suggested that the White House is just too close to the oil companies to support tough legislation to improve the control of the American oil industry. Mr Sawhill was dismissed by the President for advocating openly much tougher oil conservation measures. The President has repeatedly stated his hope that oil conservation can be achieved by voluntary action.

## Booby-trap blast kills two more soldiers

From Christopher Walker Belfast The Provisional IRA intensified its retaliation campaign against the British Army yesterday when a booby-trapped land mine exploded near an electricity transformer in Co Tyrone, killing two soldiers and injuring seven members of the security forces.

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Parliamentary Correspondent: Mr Peart and his men from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries came to Commons yesterday with reported intention of clearing up all the uncertainties and over sugar shortages and surpluses. But at the end of minutes of intense and angry hounding from all parts of the House it seemed clear that Mr Peart did not understand what was going on or that he was unable to come up with any solutions to the beef and sugar crises.

## Second ballot for Labour post

Michael Hatfield Special Staff The key post of chairmanship of the Parliamentary Labour Party is to run to a second ballot declarations last night of first vote. The present chairman, Mr Ian Girdler, a member of the left-Tribune group, failed to win an overall majority in a cornered contest, and the contest is now between him and the right-wing, the right-nominee. This third candidate in the first ballot was Mr Urwin. The first ballot Mr Mikardo had 142 votes, Mr Hughes and Mr Urwin 37. Labour backbenchers last night considered that Mr Urwin would have difficulty maintaining the chairmanship since most of Mr Urwin's support would probably go instead to Hughes, a pro-European. The results of the ballot will be known on Thursday.

## Bolivian dictator leads troops against rebels

La Paz, Nov 7.—President Banzer marched into the city of Santa Cruz today with a force of parachute troops and recaptured it from rebel Army forces who had revolted against the Government, the national radio said. The President flew to the city of Cochabamba, in the Andes near Santa Cruz, 540 miles south-east of La Paz, picked up the force and flew them to the rebel city, the radio said. The Government reported earlier that the attempted coup was crushed. It declared a state of siege to give it broad powers, which include allowing the Government to apply the death penalty to rebels, stop strikes, and make mass arrests. Quito, Nov 7.—A bomb exploded in the Bolivian Embassy here today, near the legislative palace where foreign ministers of the Organization of American States will meet tomorrow to discuss ending the economic blockade of Cuba.—UPI.

## Sponsors stop supporting tennis and golf

By a Staff Reporter Sponsorship of sport suffered heavy blows yesterday when Rothmans of Pall Mall decided to pull out of two major tennis tournaments and to reconsider their commitments to show jumping, and with the Virella-Carrington group withdrawing their support of the Professional Golfers' Association championship. Other companies will be reviewing their position in relation to sport, particularly in view of the nation's economic troubles. Green Shield Trading Stamps may follow Rothmans' lead of senior tennis within the next few weeks; Dewar, the whisky firm, are to reassess their financial involvement in the game next year; W. D. & H. O. Wills will decide by the end of this month their future in sport; and Benson and Hedges are known to be disenchanted with their matchplay golf championship. Motor racing, which has already lost the patronage of Rothmans, may have some sponsored teams missing from its grand prix circuit in 1975. "Like a lot of companies, we are facing a budget cut this year," said a Rothmans spokesman. "Our real problem is that we had a 33 per cent increase in duty slapped on us in April and this has to be balanced. I think that a lot of companies will now be reassessing their spending on projects of this kind." "We all hope that next week's Budget may give some help, but with industry facing a grave situation it is not surprising that companies are beginning to cut back." The casualties of Rothmans' withdrawal are the British hard court championship at Bournemouth and the Hoylake open event. The firm has no immediate plans for cutting their aid to golf, amateur football or any other sport with which they are associated. The main sponsors of tennis in Britain, providing some £100,000 in prizes, Rothmans saved a similar amount by pulling out of motor racing. They

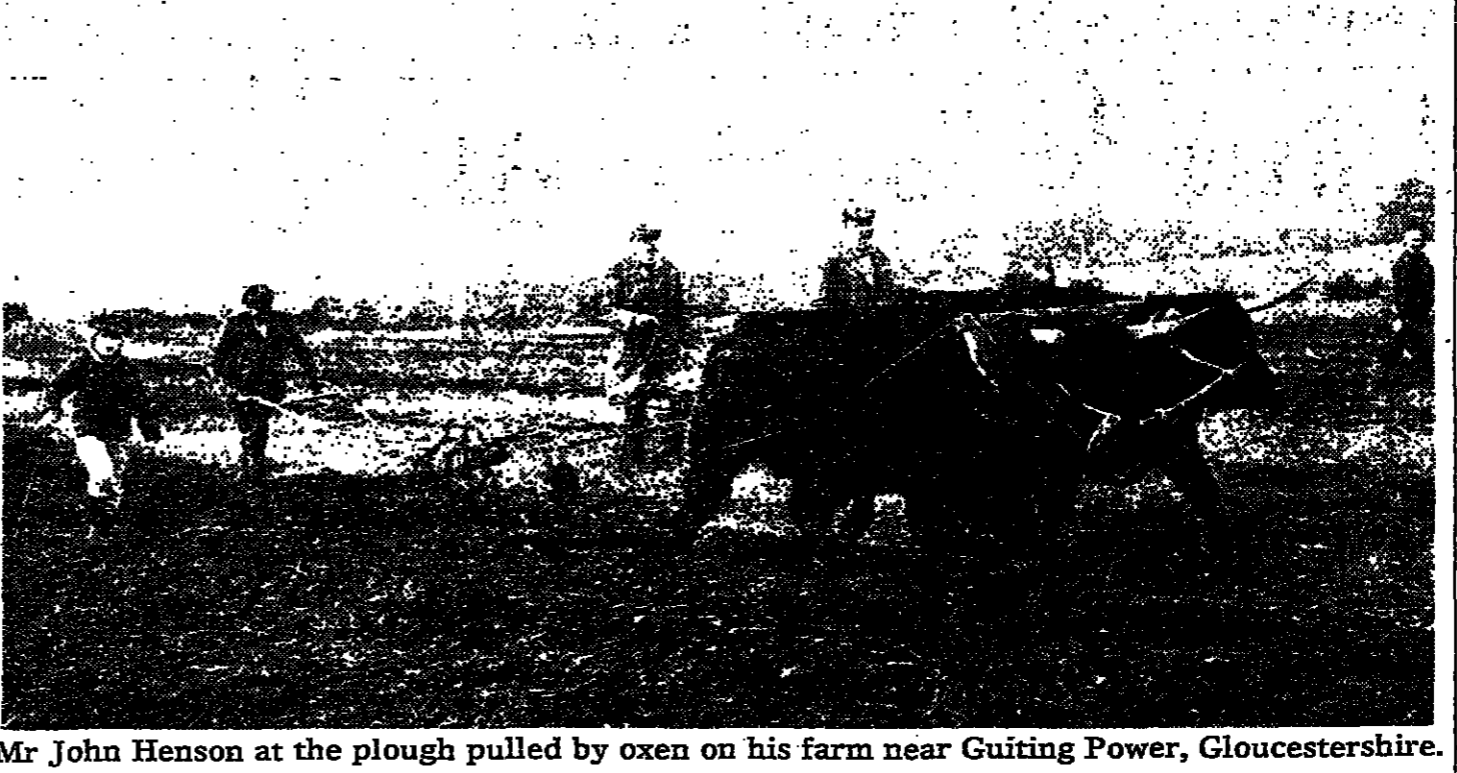
HOME NEWS

Consultants call truce in dispute over proposed contracts

By John Roper Medical Reporter
An uneasy truce in which hospital consultants have given the Government three weeks to change their proposed contract...

New step in screening for genetic disorders

By Pearce Wright Science Correspondent
An important stride in the development of a method for screening large populations for a wide range of genetic disorders has been made by a special unit of the Medical Research Council.



Mr John Henson at the plough pulled by oxen on his farm near Guiting Power, Gloucestershire.

Demonstrations against the import of Irish cattle may deteriorate into greater disruption and violence unless the Government acts soon

Patience wears thin for protesting Welsh farmers

From Trevor Fishlock Holyhead
There is still enough good humour, common sense and respect for the law among Welsh farmers to prevent their anger from being translated into really large-scale disruption and violence...

This week Holyhead has rung to the shouts and cheers of farmers; some have fought with policemen guarding the docks...

We have to sell at a loss. The harvest was terrible and hay is up to £80 a ton, if you can get it. For many farmers there is the real prospect of bankruptcy...

Opera house closes for duration of dispute

By Kenneth Gosling
There are to be no further performances by the English National Opera Company at the London Coliseum until a settlement has been reached in the dispute with stage and technical staff who belong to the National Association of Theatrical and Kine Employees.

Snatched baby found in lift at hotel

Lara Devlin, aged nine months, who was snatched from outside a London post office yesterday, was later found unharmed in a lift at the Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool Street, City of London.

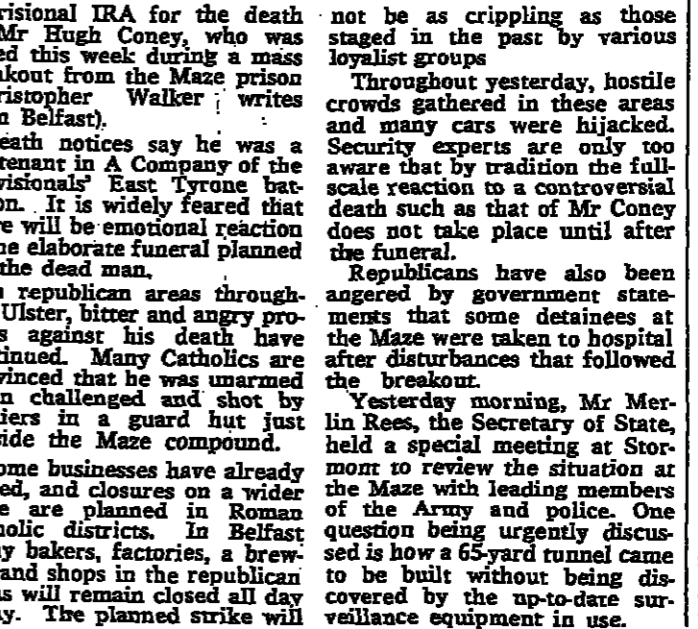
Mr Whitelaw says that Ulster civil war would drag in British cities

British cities would be dragged in if full-scale civil war broke out in Northern Ireland, Mr Whitelaw, the Conservative Party chairman, said yesterday.

Mr Scargill rejects plea on pit productivity scheme

In reply, Mr Scargill said: "My advice to Mr Clarke is: stop acting on behalf of the coal board. Follow the line of the national executive and support the union's policy."

Weather forecast and recordings



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Advertisement for Electric Central Heating. Text includes: 'This winter you'll want to be certain you make the most of all the warmth and comfort that clean and simple electric central heating provides.' Includes illustrations of a person and a house.

Double murder char

Keith Turner, aged 2 Windburgh Drive, Crumlin Northumberland, accused murdering his mother, Georgina Turner, aged 45, sister, Karen, aged 18, was taken in custody on Tuesday by marauders at E Northumberland, yesterday.

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Sir Alec... Lords... life pe...

ME NEWS... judicial system may break down... wrong approach is taken to... youth and violence, expert says

Violence at... in schools... matters a... team

Warning picture of school... renancies, violence and... among pupils in... schools has been... by some teachers who... all-in education...

Woman stabbed

Gillian Jones, aged 31, Milworth Walk, Bedford, stabbed wounds after being... by a man yesterday...

London council may... office block

An Young... London... most vociferously op... further office develop... may itself decide to build... office block in Euston...

Birmingham birth rate still above average

Arthur Osman... Birmingham's birth rate... above the national average... has been dropping...

Rebels at Clay Cross attack proposals

From David Leigh... Clay Cross... Despite the parliamentary... over their activities, the... councillors of Clay Cross...

Slimmers owed £150,000 by group, meeting told

The My Fair Lady Slimming... Clinic Group has a deficiency... of £400,000, it was stated...

Budget debate extended

The Government has agreed... under Opposition pressure, to... extend next week's Budget...

Commons TV debate

The House of Commons will... debate the broadcasting and... televising of its proceedings...

Director to retire

Mr Val May, director of the... Bristol Old Vic for 13 years, is... to retire, it was announced...

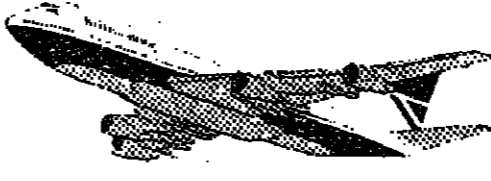
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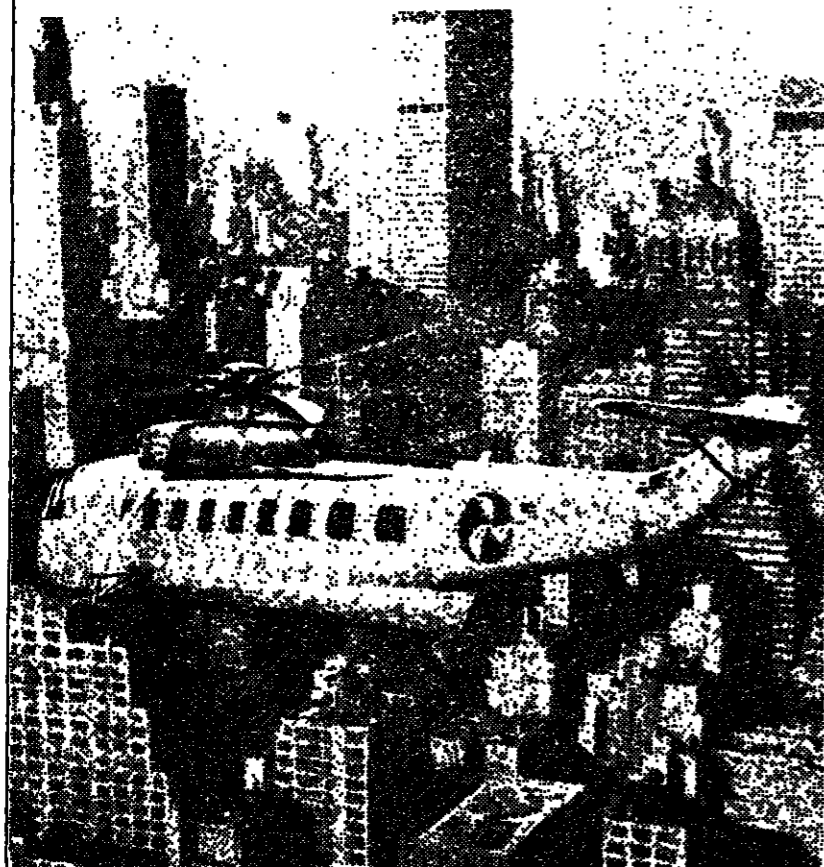
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The 1000 kronur and 500 kronur coins are both minted in brilliant proof finish with frosted relief. The former has a weight of 30 grammes and a diameter of 39 mm. The latter, 20 grammes with a diameter of 35 mm.

Designed by Th. Magnusson, the scenes depicted on the obverse of both coins symbolise how the first settlers fixed the outer limits of their land.

The reverse illustrates Iceland's

guardian spirits, a bull, a bird, a dragon and a giant.

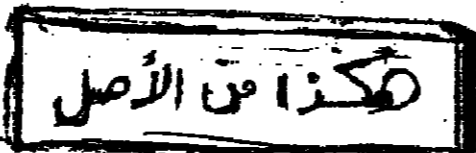
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### HOME NEWS

## Hour's chat, and then they would say: Give me my job now, please' Mercy killings admitted by retired surgeon

By Martin Huckerby  
A retired Scottish surgeon, Mr George Mair, said yesterday that he had carried out a series of mercy killings on incurable patients, stretching over a period of years.

He could not give a precise figure for the number of times he had conducted euthanasia, saying that such things were "very traumatic" and thus the mind tended to block them out. But he emphasized that it was always done at the patient's initiative.



Mr Mair: "Necessary to speak out."

While it has been known that individual doctors have illegally conducted euthanasia, Mr Mair's admission that he carried out such mercy killings over a long period is certain to revive the controversy about whether euthanasia should be legalized.

Mr Mair, speaking at his home in Old Polmont, Strathguskar, said he had first seen euthanasia practised when he went to a hospital in the Midlands as a young doctor, and found his seniors carrying it out from time to time.

"I was young and ingenious and presumed that under English law this might be legal, since people of impeccable character were carrying this out in selected circumstances." Later he realized that that was not so.

He emphasized that those doctors always used three criteria in such cases, and that he had always followed those criteria when he carried out euthanasia.

"The diagnosis had to be established by more than two consultants; the patient had to be so lamentably ill, and in such a pathetic state, and had failed to respond to any form of treatment for a significant period of time, that their quality of living had been destroyed, the patients themselves took the initiative in asking for this."

Mr Mair said the initiative

always had to come from the patient. It has been suggested that all too often in such cases it was the relatives who pressed for euthanasia, but he said: "I never paid any attention to relatives."

He added that he never discussed the decision with relatives: "It was the patient's decision; it was a private act." He said they were courageous people who had come to a decision. "I would see them and we would have tea or coffee beforehand. We would probably discuss it for maybe an hour and then they would say: 'Give me my job now, please.'"

Mr Mair realized that some people might say that what he had done was murder, but he was not troubled by guilt. He believed that he had relieved the suffering of those people.

He had no doubt that a significant number of other doctors were involved in euthanasia. "It's okay so long as you are not found out." But he believed that it was necessary to speak

out, although he thought he was certain to be condemned by the medical establishment.

He had not considered the possibility of prosecution for what he had done until it was raised yesterday morning. "I cannot say I am worried, though very much hope that nothing like that will happen," he said.

Mr Mair, aged 60, said he did not want to give too many details of the mercy killings he had carried out but "it is not a small number."

He had practised euthanasia throughout his career at regular intervals, but he felt that to give details would only distract attention away from the principle that he believed was important: the benefits that euthanasia could bring in certain cases.

Euthanasia could be carried out either by withholding drugs that would otherwise prolong life, or by administering enolous injections to those in constant pain. He thought it was terrible to keep alive medically people who were vegetable.

Mr Mair was in practice as a surgeon from 1939 to 1953, and then went into general practice in the North of England, but retired from medicine in 1968 and is now a writer and lecturer. He has written 19 books.

In a book, *Confessions of a Surgeon*, which is published next week, Mr Mair says: "I still consider that euthanasia conducted without making a major production out of it, is the ideal end-point for many types of terminal illness, including many conditions other than cancer."

"It was, of course, completely illegal and totally unethical, but I still say that it was merciful to the people concerned. It saved them weeks or months of pain, worry and possibly even fear."

Mr Mair describes the case of a woman in her forties who was not expected to live more than a few months and was already

### In brief

#### Date set for corruption case

The trial of four men charged with corruption offences involving John Poulson, the former architect, and T. Dan Smith will begin at Leeds Crown Court in January, it was announced yesterday.

The four are Councillor Colin Dewis, of Glebe Street, Castleford; Councillor Tom Roebuck, of Elm Road, Mexborough, both Yorkshire; Albert Roy Hadwin, of St Thomas Square, Newcastle upon Tyne; and Peter Ward, of the Old Orchard, Rothbury, Northumberland.

#### Factory murder charge

Jack Smith, aged 63, of Bedford Road, Northampton, was remanded in custody for eight days by Northampton magistrates yesterday, charged with murdering Roger Tipping, aged 34, a factory manager, who died in a shooting incident at his works last month.

#### Homes saved from road

The remaining six-mile section of the proposed Lee Valley Route, from the North Circular Road, Walthamstow, to Stratford, has been abandoned because it would have meant destroying 150 homes.

#### School buildings closed

Parts of 11 schools in Northamptonshire have been closed for repairs because surveys have shown that suspect cement was used in their construction.

## Sir Geoffrey Howe urges Tories to rally to new 'Set the people free' battle-cry

By Geoffrey Smith  
Political Staff  
Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Conservative spokesman on the social services, looked forward last night to the situation that the party chairman expects to face in the next election. While giving a warning that the party must not appear only as the champion of the hard-pressed middle classes, he saw the task as being more complex than simply recapturing the allegiance of industrial working families.

He has been losing strength on more or less the same scale with almost every section of the electorate," Sir Geoffrey told London University Conservative Association.

He may therefore be thought to have kept his distance from both Mr Walker and Mrs Thatcher. Sir Keith Joseph may note the comment that "there are difficulties in simultaneously making a virtue of accepting the realities of human nature and yet claiming to be the only champions of morality."

The essence of Sir Geoffrey's speech was that it was an examination of the party's philosophy and policy, not its leadership. He foresees a period of greatly intensified state intervention and control, from which the country will need deliverance. So he would like to see Conservatives rallying to the Churchillian battle-cry of the early 1950s: "Set the people free."

Sir Geoffrey said: "I am in no doubt that it must be one

of the principal tasks of the Conservative Party to challenge the principles and oppose the policies of socialism. Such outright opposition does not naturally appeal to the British instinct for compromise. Yet to compromise, save only about the pace of the socialist revolution."

He looked forward, in effect, to an anti-socialist crusade behind the Conservative banner. Their appeal would have to be broad enough "to make it natural, and indeed inevitable, for people like Christopher Mayhew and Dick Taverne to transfer their allegiance to the Conservatives instead of to the indeterminate centre". That might seem a somewhat ambitious objective, but Sir Geoffrey made it clear that the campaign would not be confined to economic matters.

In economics there would be an emphasis on the virtues of profits and of competition. Monetary policy would be an essential, long-term, strategic weapon against inflation. "If that is wrong, then nothing else will come right." But monetary policy would not be enough.

Beyond that the campaign would be to set the people free from excessive government and an encroaching bureaucracy. Judgment on performance: joining in the Conservative Party's soul-searching on leadership and policy, Mr John Biffen, MP for Oswestry, said at Kensington last night that many former Tories deserted the party because of policies closely associated with the former Conservative government.

Mr Biffen, who at one time was closely associated with Enoch Powell but who is no substantial figure of what is loosely called the economic right of the party, said Walker last weekend had criticized the contemporary role performance of free enterprise but turned an oblique Neilsen eye to the shortcomings politicians.

Mr Biffen dismissed as a mere belief that voters were frightened because Mr He was telling the truth in the election campaign. "Their decision is a judgment on economic and government performance between 1970 and 1974," said. "There were three marks of Conservative government that discouraged traditional supporters, and each instance we must think constructively on how to re their support and enthusiasm."

Their mistake was not that was the political cult of the relentless pursuit of economic growth, and the cease tinkering with institutions."

In the name of economic growth the Conservative government embarked on def financing "on a scale unprecedented in peacetime and inflationary consequences were both predictable and dictated". It was foolish to pose that it need not disturb working-class Tories, cause it ran counter to instincts on the virtue of stability.

## Ecumenical good will for Catholic bishop at synod

By Clifford Longley  
Religious Affairs Correspondent  
In a spectacular demonstration of ecumenical good will, the General Synod of the Church of England gave a prolonged and spontaneous standing ovation yesterday to the first Roman Catholic bishop to be invited to take part in the synod's proceedings.

The Right Reverend Alan Clark, Catholic Bishop of Elyham and co-chairman of the Anglican Roman Catholic International Theological Commission, had addressed the synod at length on the significance of the two historic agreements, on the Eucharist and on the ministry, which the commission has produced so far.

He saw the synod vote unanimously in favour of a resolution welcoming the agreements, and commending them for study at all levels in the church. By that resolution, the governing body of the Church of England went as far as possible in endorsing the terms of the agreements, and acknowledging them as generally compatible with Anglican doctrine.

Some detailed reservations were expressed during the

debate, but none of the speakers had anything less than a warm welcome for both agreements. One speaker suggested that quite apart from their importance to the ecumenical movement, the agreements were good enough to be used for the instruction of Confirmation candidates.

Mgr Clark said the agreements pointed the way to re-examination of the recognition of Anglican orders by Rome, but that would have to await progress on the third important topic being considered by the international commission, that of authority within the church.

"I have said that our goal is consensus of faith," he said. "This is the immediate purpose, but there is a deeper and profounder content to what we are doing. For what will emerge at the end of the day, if we respond to the grace of God, is a picture, however imperfectly drawn, of what we profess to be the Church of Christ. This is the fundamental consensus we are seeking. If we have done our work well, then all of us, wherever we are, will have to face the charge: why then do we remain divided?"

## Flixborough victims to share £50,000

Victims of the disaster which ravaged the works of Nypro UK Ltd, at Flixborough, Humber-side, in June, killing 28 employees, are to share £50,000.

The money was given to the fund launched by the Mayor of Glanford, Councillor George Hewson, and he said yesterday that it would now be distributed.

Adult dependants of people killed are to receive £1,000 each, and children £500, with additional provision in cases of special hardship. Those incapacitated will get £1,000, and injured people who are now recovering £200.

## Working party on disabled asks for suggestions

Lord Snowdon, chairman of the working party on integration of the disabled, has appealed to disabled people who feel they are at a disadvantage compared with the able-bodied to come forward with suggestions for overcoming their disadvantages.

The working party was set up by Action Research for the Crippled Child to examine the lack of integration experienced by disabled people in areas such as education, employment, transport and leisure.

Suggestions should be sent to the Secretary, Working Party on Integration, 1 Springfield Road, Bournemouth, Dorset, BH12 2PN.

## Oxfam doesn't like giving food to the hungry.

We'd sooner help them grow it. For example, seven years of drought on the southern edge of the Sahara have destroyed the way of life of the Tuareg herdsmen, forcing thousands into the towns to queue for relief food.

For a small number, Oxfam has found an answer. At Tchirozerine in Niger, hungry people have been shown how to make the best use of water resources to improve their pasture and grow new crops. Already the results have been dramatic. But the task in the whole area is huge. We can tackle it better if we can plan ahead on the basis of a regular income.

Are you willing to commit yourself to sign this Banker's Order and give just a small regular percentage of your salary to help projects like this throughout the world? Just 1% may not sound much (£1 a month if you earn £1,200 a year). But it goes a long way in stopping starvation in a small community. Your decision to help would help hungry people help themselves.

By return post we will send you detailed information on the Tchirozerine project. And we'll keep you in touch with Oxfam's work around the world.

This form is simply an instruction to your bank to pay regularly whatever sum you choose to Oxfam's work. You can of course cancel it at any time by contacting your bank.

To: The Manager \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_

Bank Name \_\_\_\_\_

Bank Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please pay to the account of OXFAM (Incorporated), Barclays Bank, High Street, Oxford, (20-25-31, Account 20946784) the sum of \_\_\_\_\_ pounds (£ \_\_\_\_\_)

on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_

and every month/quarter/year\* on the same day until further notice.

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\*Please denote where applicable

When completed this form should be sent not to your bank but to: Room 1, OXFAM, OXFORD. Thank you.

HOME NEWS

rice-fixing warning retailers if voluntary pact fails

Staff Reporter
Government's voluntary pact with retailers to cut prices on certain basic household goods...

poultry men complain about 'criminal' cuts

John Eastwood, president of the British Poultry Federation, said the present EEC policy on poultry was criminal...

the retail trade in June under which they should reduce their profit limits by a tenth and should concentrate that reduction on basic items.

Food prices

Hugh Clayton
The Department of Prices and Consumer Protection said that plaice, some pork, pears and lemons would be dearer this weekend than last.

Football crowd safety Bill presented

By Our Political Staff
The Safety of Sports Grounds Bill, requiring stadia with a capacity for more than ten thousand spectators to obtain a safety certificate from the local authority...

Boycott complaint

Mr Wilson is to look into the case of three Grimsby fish dockers sent to Coventry by their mates since they refused to join a strike on May 8.



Rubbish piling up in a street in Earsl Court, London, where dustmen are on unofficial strike.

Councils complain of 1971 census delays

By Stewart Tendler

The 1971 census, intended as an essential tool for Britain's planners, has proved too much for the census officials to cope with.

Local authorities, faced with these delays and others on special detailed information they ordered, have kept up a barrage of complaints to the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys.

Mr Eric Thompson, chairman of the Census Research Group and assistant director of the GLC Intelligence Unit, said: "We have been told that we shall get some of the special material we ordered next year but the material was intended to be available within two years."

Last year The Times disclosed that census office computers had rejected more than a quarter of the 18 million forms, which were designed to collect four times the information required in 1961.

Lottery MP in luck again in Bill ballot

By Our Political Staff
Mr Graham Page, who was Minister for Local Government in the last Conservative government, has been lucky again in the ballot for private members' Bills.

Building strike ends

Three thousand Merseyside building workers return to work yesterday after a week's unofficial strike protesting over the dismissal of the Shrewsbury "flying pickets" appeal.

Christmas is coming and he's stocked up for a big season. He hasn't had to worry about extra insurance cover though - his policy takes care of that automatically.

Not all shopkeepers can be so blasé about an overfull stockroom. Excess expertise, however, knows the problems - the last worry they want at busy times is extra cover. That's why Excess new Shopkeepers Policy allows for automatic seasonal stock increases for any six week period at no extra charge - just one of the many features contained in this new policy.

Excess expertise on this and other insurance problems is always available through branch offices. Take advantage of it. There are nine offices, strategically placed throughout the country.

Take advantage of Excess expertise



Excess Insurance Group
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Head Office: The Warren, Warren Road, Worthing, Sussex BN14 9QD Tel: 0903-39933

nurses 'dispensing pill at family planning clinics'

Pat Healy, Services correspondent
Hundreds of thousands of men attending Family Planning Association clinics have been given the contraceptive pill by nurses, although doctors are the only people legally qualified to prescribe it.

"We have heard of clinics where no doctor is present; we have heard of one where the specially trained and selected nurses provide the whole service, including the insertion of intra-uterine devices. In that one, a consultant gynaecologist would be on hand to sign one prescription for all the pills that the nurses dispense once every three months. Unless the nurses refer to him he does not see the patients."

Saturday issue 'Evening Standard' to end

Staff Reporter
One of London's two evening papers, the Evening Standard, is to stop publishing its Saturday editions to reduce costs.

Child 'had six broken ribs and 64 bruises'

Tina Johnson, aged eight months, had six broken ribs and 64 separate bruises on her body the night she died, it was alleged at Nottingham Crown Court yesterday.

Neglect of the social sciences in France

The "catastrophic neglect" of the social sciences in France is discussed today in The Times Higher Education Supplement by Dr H. Halsey.

Expensive to put sugar on ration

House of Commons

MR TEBBIT (Waltham Forest, Chingford, C) asked the Minister of Agriculture to list the powers he possessed to introduce rationing of basic foodstuffs such as sugar.

MR STRANG, Parliamentary Secretary (Edinburgh, East, Lab)—The Minister has no such powers.

MR TEBBIT—Will the Government consider taking such powers or alternatively altering their policies as these powers may be needed. I say this to no unpleasant terms: I have a good deal of sympathy with Mr Peart.

At the beef rub has been pulled out from under it, and since the Commonwealth producers rested on their obligations to supply us at reasonable prices, will he consider taking steps to make sure that the British housewife can get sugar somewhere because she cannot today.

MR STRANG—Rationing is a serious matter and it would be a drastic and expensive step to take and one which would be only appropriate in a situation where we had a serious and prolonged shortage. That situation does not exist at present. (Conservative interruption.)

MR WOODALL (Hemsworth, Lab)—Unofficial rationing of sugar is now taking place in my constituency. I have evidence of grocery stores only permitting customers to purchase a few pounds of groceries to have sugar. If he has no powers to introduce rationing, will he stop this unofficial rationing?

MR STRANG—I can well understand Mr Woodall's concern about the situation which exists in some parts of the country. It is the case that some housewives are having difficulty obtaining sugar at present. The amount of sugar consumed in the last few months is up on last year and what we have is an abnormal demand at this time.

MR HAROLD WILSON, Prime Minister (questioned)—Later about sugar matters. We have every intention of getting all the sugar we can from Australia, through the arrangements we have made.

MR HAROLD WILSON, Prime Minister (questioned)—Oh " "

Government encouraging farmers to expand sowing of beet

House of Lords

LORD CHAMPTION (Lab), moving that the House note the tenth report of the select committee on the sugar industry, said within their terms of reference the committee had to decide whether the EEC proposals were to be viewed from the wider European point of view or from a more parochial national standpoint. They had tried to achieve a balance between the two.

They were of the opinion from the Community angle that the proposals provided a satisfactory framework within which negotiations between agricultural ministers might take place and in particular provided a reasonable basis for negotiation on a possible extension of the international sugar agreement. They would also provide for the future production of adequate supplies of sugar.

The committee was of the opinion that the price structure should continue to maintain a sugar beet industry in the Community as well as supporting cane sugar production in developing countries.

From our national angle (the continued) we were critical of the proposal to increase the production of a producer's total annual production between 1968 and 1973 for the reason that our own sugar production was being restricted by the Commonwealth sugar agreement. That agreement made provision that we would return to our own production to ensure that we could take the agreed production of our Commonwealth.

As regards the highly vulnerable position of British refiners the committee believed that the Minister of Agriculture must carefully consider the EEC memorandum and perhaps take a firm stand to insure that this country's refiners were not to suffer as a consequence of any Community decision.

LORD ST OSWALD (C) said that he had spoken this week in the agriculture committee in Brussels. The spirit was one of cooperation, which did not prevent special interests being deployed where they could be shown to be reasonable. The doubt law not in the willingness of the Community to maintain the quota, but in the ability of the individual countries to fulfil the quota. They failed by more than 300,000 tons in the past year.

MR KENNETH BAGNALL, QC, and Mr Jonathan Gault, QC, Transport. Dr Pepps was not represented and did not appear, but the court took notice of the grounds for opposing the appeal.

Costs in Lands Tribunal 'sealed offer' cases

Pepps v London Transport Executive

Before Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Roskill and Sir John Pennycuik. [Judgments delivered November 5.] The Lands Tribunal erred in ordering that London Transport should pay the costs, up to the date of an unconditional "sealed offer" of £500, incurred by a claimant for compensation who refused the offer but then accepted nothing before the tribunal. The Court of Appeal held that the normal practice of not ordering successful defendants to pay the costs of a party who fails to make out a claim should be followed unless special reasons were given for departing from it.

Their Lordships allowed an appeal by the London Transport Executive against part of an order of the Lands Tribunal (Mr E. C. Strachan) on an unsuccessful claim by Dr Elizabeth Olga Pepps for compensation in a case arising from the running of trains on the underground Victoria Line.

Mr Kenneth Bagnall, QC, and Mr Jonathan Gault, QC, Transport. Dr Pepps was not represented and did not appear, but the court took notice of the grounds for opposing the appeal.

The MASTER OF THE ROLLS

Jobs of cane refinery workers not at risk in EEC negotiations

House of Commons

MR WILLIAM HAMILTON (Central Fife, Lab) asked the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food to make a statement on the recently negotiated sugar agreements.

MR PEART (Wokington, Lab) said the cost of sugar bought under the EEC arrangements, when refined, would be far below the world market price, but he could not at this stage make a firm forecast. On the future sugar regime of the Community, they had secured the maximum quota of just over 1,500,000 metric tons at the full guaranteed price.

MR HAMILTON—Notwithstanding these agreements and the out-come of the negotiations, the Minister of Agriculture will be urged to urge on the British Sugar Corporation the need to get on with the modernizing of their processing equipment to ensure an increased beet supplies in Britain?

If there is likely to be a shortage of sugar next year, there may well be, he should not hesitate to introduce rationing, obviously, that would be a fairer scheme of ensuring the housewife get a fairer share of what is going.

MR PEART—I did secure an increased acreage quota for beet sugar. On Commonwealth sugar, it is true it is a matter for the Community still. This will be discussed soon in the Community. We are being asked to have a long-term agreement.

MR BLAKER (Blackpool, South, C)—Does he agree with the view, sugar refinery workers that as a result of negotiations jobs are at risk?

MR PEART—I do not accept that. The beet industry is in an alarm and dependency spread by people for whatever reasons. The position of the cane refinery workers will be safeguarded by the agreement reached in the Council of Ministers. I am meeting with the workers concerned and have kept the matter in mind throughout the EEC negotiations.

MR MOLLOY (Ealing, North, Lab)—This is another bitter EEC deal for the British people to swallow. I should like to see the Government should not negotiate an Australia deal? Will he meet all those involved in the refining, distributing and selling of sugar to try and sort out the mess we are in?

MR PEART—I took the initiative to have talks with the Australian Government. The Australian deal has a deal approved by the EEC—that is their position. In the circumstances, we have accepted the deal. I accepted the negotiations endorsed by the EEC.

MR SHERREY (Hillingdon, Lab)—Does he agree it is in the national interest that the maximum quantity of beet sugar should be grown in Britain and the maximum amount of cane sugar should be imported from the rest of the EEC if our supplies are to be ensured. Will he press now for the EEC to agree to importation of not less than 1,400,000 tons of sugar at a fair price to the producers. It is in the consumers' interest and I accept it. I am sure that the Government will increase which has been welcomed.

MR JAY (Wandsworth, Battersea, North, Lab)—According to my information, the Australian deal is for 300,000 tons a year for a minimum of five years at a price of £134 a ton. The EEC price is £134 a ton. Allowing for the subsidy involved, there would have been no great difference between the two. Is Mr Peart right to turn down this offer?

MR PEART—He has been wrongly informed. Australia was offering £180 a ton compared with £136 a ton. Mr Peart, Opposition spokesman on sugar, said that the Government agreement runs out next month and Mr Peart is talking about the counter-inflation policy of the Tory administration? Will he ask the CBI what he ought to do to get us out of this position?

When he meets the TUC will he tell them that although we failed to get the £10m that was taken out of the trade union funds, it is a guarantee that we have a clear majority in the House?

MR HAROLD WILSON (Hayton, Lab)—On the first part, presumably he is referring to part of the Counter-Inflation Act dealing with the price code. This must be a matter for the Price Commission. I am sure that the Government of State to look into this question.

The second part of the question—the £10m—relates to a Finance Bill matter and I cannot answer that. The Chancellor of the Exchequer is to be congratulated. Without anticipating the Budget (he added later) the Chancellor did say that the avoidance of a lurch to unemployment would be a high priority. The Government's face, in spite of the recent improvements in the unemployment situation over a short period, is a world statesmanship to ensure that we do not lurch into recession as a result of the world oil situation.

MR HEATE, Leader of the Opposition (Bexley, Sidcup, C) is referring to the £10m, the Prime Minister replied that this was a budgetary matter. If action was to be taken, it would be taken by the Government to attempt to refund the money?

MR WILSON—The Secretary of State for Employment has already given a clear indication of the decision taken by Parliament in the last majority Parliament. The Government do intend to act on this matter. I suggest there are any questions on this to the Chancellor.

MR ROBERT SHELDON, Minister of Agriculture, in a written reply, said: The basic salary of a Member of Parliament was last increased in 1972. Taking the irregular purchasing power of the pound sterling as 100 in January 1972 its value in September 1973 was 74½. The value of £4,500 was therefore about £3,350 equivalent to a fall of 25 per cent. The Government have increased by £1,250 in order to match increases in retail prices since 1972. The Government are made on the basis of the Change in the General Index of Retail Prices.

The motion was agreed to. House adjourned, 8.45 pm.

Drop in fat cattle prices caused by heavy marketings

House of Commons

MR PEART, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (Wokington, Lab), answering a series of questions about the beef situation, including the current low prices for fat cattle and the proposed £15 a car to beef producers, said:

The present low prices for fat cattle are the result of heavy marketings which are one-third higher than a year ago. Some of these cases are of poor quality and are being slaughtered prematurely because of recent wet weather and anxiety about fodder supplies during the winter. Although there has been some improvement in auction prices in the last few days, the situation remains serious.

In my speech during the debate on the Queen's Speech last week, I stated that the Government have taken to safeguard the future supplies of beef. More than £100 million of support is being given to beef producers. The maximum support given to beef producers in any previous year was £100 million.

The additional £100m recently awarded to the dairy sector will also help to ensure a continuing supply of calves for beef production.

I am conducting an urgent survey to find out how much winter fodder is available and what we can do to ensure that we have established the facts. We shall consider whether any further assistance could usefully help to distribute fodder supplies to those areas where it is most needed.

I am also considering with my colleagues the problems resulting from the importation of Irish cattle. This is a traditional trade and the greater part of these cattle are imported as stores. The fact that the numbers imported for immediate slaughter are only a very small percentage of our total weekly slaughtering of cattle.

The real concern at the moment is the need for an assured return to producers. I described last week the changes needed in the beef sector to bring this about. I will recognize the seriousness of the present situation and I shall do all I can to get urgent action to this effect. I shall be in the Ministers' meeting on November 15.

MR MILLS (West Devon, C)—Will he accept that he has misled and deceived the British beef producer over the promise of a £15 a car? (Conservative protest.) This is particularly cruel in view of their experience, and will he use the £100 million to bring the form or another or bring in an immediate beef guarantee?

It used to be a "Good Old Fred" but now it is a "Fred who misled the beef producers of this country".

MR PEART—I cannot accept that. I am bound by the Community. (Conservative protest.) The Conservatives decided to end the guarantee and enter the Community, and they would not deny the Community. I have decided to approach the Community on this matter.

SIR JOHN LANGFORD-HOLT (Shrewsbury, C)—The situation is desperate for beef farmers and the Minister's words, that farmers should improve are wholly inadequate.

MR PEART—One of the reasons for the present low price of fat cattle is the heavy marketing, which is one-third higher than a year ago. It was the Conservative who asked producers to go into beef out of duty.

MR DALYELL (West Lothian, Lab)—What are we to tell Scottish farmers about the export of cow carcasses?

MR PEART—Mr Dalzell is anxious about the O'Brien report. There are people in this House who believe that there is a different view, but I must come to a decision and the House has to debate it. We have had to consult with our suppliers (Conservative protest.)

MR FARR (Harborough, C)—Mr Peart has been baffled in Brussels and hoodwinked in Luxembourg by the European and asked if he has not the ability to help the producers at this time.

Can he look into the question of the large multi-national meat companies and see if they have the ability to help the producers at this time.

MR PEART—I will look into this. I believe that I got a good package deal and it was approved by many Conservative MPs. It gave the dairy farmers the biggest award they have ever had.

MR CLEDWYN HUGHES (Anglesey, Lab)—The money being paid out of the beef premium scheme which Mr Peart introduced in all good faith is not reaching the producer. It was intended to help. Will the Minister institute an immediate inquiry into the matter?

On fodder, which is vital to the store cattle producer, how urgently is this being examined? When can he make a statement?

MR PEART—This is being considered and will be made a statement as soon as possible. The premium system was a good system approved by the market. It was not to be improved. I am going to Brussels in November and I will raise the matter then.

MR PEART—Opposition spokesman on Agriculture (Cambridgehire, C)—Mr Peart's unilateral act in opening out of intervention approached almost annual folly. We have been looking for a commitment but the situation is worse than that.

A report in the Western Mail said that farmers would do better to accept £4 instead of keeping their cattle throughout the winter. Will he take action before many of these farmers are ruined?

MR PEART—Mr Peart knows that within the Community intervention has not worked. I thought the Conservatives wanted support in the market in the sense of a guaranteed system? I very much prefer that. I would prefer to have something in the market different from intervention.

MR REATH, Leader of the Opposition, said that he would like to have a debate on agriculture after Mr Peart had had his talks in the Council of Ministers.

Mr Wilson indicates unions will get £10m

House of Commons

During questions to the Prime Minister, Mr Wilson indicated that the Government would be offering £10 million to help trade unions.

MR SKINNER (Bolsover, Lab) said: Now we are mopping up some of the mess left by the Tories, will the Prime Minister, before he next week introduces the Bill to deal with all the defaulting companies (Conservative shout of "And conciliators?") who failed to send their money to the TUC?

MR WILSON—The Government are not going to be taken in by the Tory administration? Will he ask the CBI what he ought to do to get us out of this position?

When he meets the TUC will he tell them that although we failed to get the £10m that was taken out of the trade union funds, it is a guarantee that we have a clear majority in the House?

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MR WILSON—The Secretary of State for Employment has already given a clear indication of the decision taken by Parliament in the last majority Parliament. The Government do intend to act on this matter. I suggest there are any questions on this to the Chancellor.

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The motion was agreed to. House adjourned, 8.45 pm.

MPs' salaries down 25 pc

MR KENNETH LOMAS (Huddersfield, West, Lab) asked the Secretary of State for the Environment, in a written reply, the present value of the salary of an MP in terms of the value at the latest increase in 1973; by what amount he would need to be increased to bring it in line with the latest cost of living index.

MR ROBERT SHELDON, Minister of Agriculture, in a written reply, said: The basic salary of a Member of Parliament was last increased in 1972. Taking the irregular purchasing power of the pound sterling as 100 in January 1972 its value in September 1973 was 74½. The value of £4,500 was therefore about £3,350 equivalent to a fall of 25 per cent. The Government have increased by £1,250 in order to match increases in retail prices since 1972. The Government are made on the basis of the Change in the General Index of Retail Prices.

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Oil subsidy for growers not to be continued

SIR DEREK WALKER-SMITH (East Herefordshire, C) asked the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food what proposals he had for the continuation of oil subsidy for the horticultural industry.

MR STRANG, Parliamentary Secretary (Edinburgh, East, Lab), in a written reply, said: The oil subsidy was made available until December 31, 1974, to cushion growers against a sharp and unexpected increase in oil costs which occurred when it was too late for them to make major adjustments in their production for the 1974 season. In present circumstances, we have no proposals for its continuation.

Next week's business

Business in the House of Lords

TUESDAY: Motion on the Channel Tunnel Bill and Northern Ireland (Northern Ireland) Bill, second reading. Wednesday: Motion on the Channel Tunnel Bill, second reading.

Business in the House of Commons

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Parliamentary Notices

House of Commons

Opening of National Theatre delayed

House of Commons

MR HUGH JENKINS, Under-Secretary for Education and Science (Wandsworth, Putney, Lab), moving the second reading of the National Theatre Bill, said:

MR ST JOHN-STEVAS said the whole of the arts budget was being compared with the education budget of nearly £4,000m. The National Theatre, he had figures of £1.5m a year for occupation of the building and £2.5m for the Olivier Theatre. It was vital there should be a guarantee that the building would be completed.

MR JENKINS said the cost of the subsidy for running the building was £1.5m; the Olivier Theatre would cost £2.5m and to operate the Olivier Theatre and the Littleton Theatre would require a subsidy of £2.5m, but that was the total.

It was not the Government's intention that the theatre would become a sort of public Centre for the arts. The Government would not be able to do so without a clear majority in the House.

MR HEATE, Leader of the Opposition (Bexley, Sidcup, C) is referring to the £10m, the Prime Minister replied that this was a budgetary matter. If action was to be taken, it would be taken by the Government to attempt to refund the money?

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Parliamentary Notices

House of Commons

Court of Appeal

But in the general situation the order was erroneous.

LORD JUSTICE ROSKILL, concurring, said that in view of the statutory provisions gave the tribunal a complete discretion with regard to the costs incurred before the date of the sealed offer, that discretion had to be judicially exercised. The court should not be asked to think that because Dr Pepps had been offered £500 which she refused she was entitled to have her costs up to the date of the sealed offer, though in the end she recovered nothing.

That was wrong in law. However, much one might sympathize with Dr Pepps, there was no difference between her and any other unsuccessful plaintiff who might have recovered less than an amount paid into court—unless there were reasons, which should be given, for departing from the normal practice.

SIR JOHN PENNYCUICK, also concurring, said that if the tribunal awarded costs to an unsuccessful plaintiff, it should give reasons for so doing. In the present case the tribunal did give a reason—but it was a bad reason. The fact that an acquiring authority might be fit to make an unconditional offer which was not accepted by the claimant was clearly not of itself a good reason for ordering the authority to pay the claimant's costs up to the date of the offer.

Solicitor: Mr G. S. M. Birch.

Revaluation of rates put back until inquiry on finance is completed

House of Commons

MR JOHN SILKIN, Minister for Planning (Leeds, Lab), moving the second reading of the General Rate Act, said:

MR ST JOHN-STEVAS said the whole of the arts budget was being compared with the education budget of nearly £4,000m. The National Theatre, he had figures of £1.5m a year for occupation of the building and £2.5m for the Olivier Theatre. It was vital there should be a guarantee that the building would be completed.

MR JENKINS said the cost of the subsidy for running the building was £1.5m; the Olivier Theatre would cost £2.5m and to operate the Olivier Theatre and the Littleton Theatre would require a subsidy of £2.5m, but that was the total.

It was not the Government's intention that the theatre would become a sort of public Centre for the arts. The Government would not be able to do so without a clear majority in the House.

MR HEATE, Leader of the Opposition (Bexley, Sidcup, C) is referring to the £10m, the Prime Minister replied that this was a budgetary matter. If action was to be taken, it would be taken by the Government to attempt to refund the money?

MR WILSON—The Secretary of State for Employment has already given a clear indication of the decision taken by Parliament in the last majority Parliament. The Government do intend to act on this matter. I suggest there are any questions on this to the Chancellor.

MR ROBERT SHELDON, Minister of Agriculture, in a written reply, said: The basic salary of a Member of Parliament was last increased in 1972. Taking the irregular purchasing power of the pound sterling as 100 in January 1972 its value in September 1973 was 74½. The value of £4,500 was therefore about £3,350 equivalent to a fall of 25 per cent. The Government have increased by £1,250 in order to match increases in retail prices since 1972. The Government are made on the basis of the Change in the General Index of Retail Prices.

The motion was agreed to. House adjourned, 8.45 pm.

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### General in French aircraft row resigns

Paris, Nov 7.—General Paul Stehlin, former French Air Chief of Staff, today resigned as National Assembly member after widespread criticism that he betrayed national interests by declaring American jet fighters to be better than French Mirages.

In a brief press statement the general-politician, who is 67, left his lower chamber presidency and left the centrist political party, the Reform Movement, "so as to be able to defend himself" —UPI.

Miles Hargrove writes from Paris: President Giscard d'Estaing's decision to spend 24 billion francs on the French nuclear submarine *Le Terrible* designed to carry a \$4m contract for a radar system to equip the new American combat aircraft, the YF15 and YF17—which General Stehlin preferred to Dassault's Mirage F1 M53—is regarded by M Marcel Dassault as confirmation that the General was "merely demonstrating his gratitude to his former American employers".

In a letter to *Le Figaro* he quoted from a report by experts of the Rand Corporation in September, 1973, praising the industrial methods of his firm "which could, if adopted, transform American aircraft and the industry which produces them".

When the American aircraft was operational, he proposed a mock combat with the Mirage to determine which was the better.

The veteran aircraft constructor added, in a radio interview, that an aircraft in service for two years could not be compared with a prototype not yet operational. The Stehlin affair was not political but commercial.

In fact the matter is highly political. It was exploited to the bit by the Gaullists as a heaven-sent opportunity for settling old scores with the reformers of M Lecanuet, and their proven Le Monde, generally in the defence of unpopular causes, condemns the General, not for preferring American aircraft to French, but be-

### Common agricultural policy as 'the last hope of cheap food' in view of 'world market anarchy'

### M Jobert shows warmth for Britain

By David Spanier  
Diplomatic Correspondent

M Jobert, the former French Foreign Minister, asserted yesterday that the future of Britain and France lay together in a united Europe. In a review of the outlook for the European Community, M Jobert—though he has lost none of his aversion to American influences—demonstrated a remarkable warmth for Britain.

"I am more than ever convinced," he told the Institute of Directors conference in London, "that your future is with us and that the rendezvous of our two countries has been made with history must this time be kept."

The British demand for a "renegotiation" of the terms of entry had revived many misgivings. "Is it really necessary to question again the very principles of the common agricultural policy?" he inquired, "at a time when the state of anarchy prevailing on the world market highlights its wisdom, and when it seems to offer the last hope of a 'cheap food policy'?"

"The original vision of Europe had gone out of focus, M Jobert said reviewing the state of the Community. The common external tariff was "a hollow shell". The agricultural policy, which was to be part of a larger entity, was the only thing which had endured. As for the common rules, a large number had in effect been shelved.

"Our attachment to the Communities can be easily explained when one discovers that, by some magic, these treaties, so often reviled, deemed to be a dead letter and therefore buried, have nevertheless had undeniable results."

The true benefactors of Europe's economic expansion were, on the one hand, the industrialists, who saw its possibilities, and on the other, the officials who realized that their partners too had contributions to make. All this resulted from the treaties.

Turning to the external situation, M Jobert found it incredible that the Community had been all too often more concerned with American interests than with its own.

"The reasons for this strange attitude are multiple: complexes engendered by war; cowardice disguised as realism; a basic lack of self-confidence, unwarranted by economic facts; a concealed wish for fragmentation as well as a desire to make more powerful partners see reason." The countries of Europe had always seemed to be re-enacting the history of the Greek city states.

### Signor Saragat falls out with former ally

From Patricia Clough  
Rome, Nov 7

The former Italian President, Signor Saragat, has created a sensation by accusing his Social Democrat Party comrade and former friend, Signor Tanassi, of failing to inform him about the abortive 1970 coup plot when he was in office and Signor Tanassi was Defence Minister.

Signor Tanassi, who is the party president, retorted by charging Signor Saragat with "a defamation campaign, bordering on an attempt to lynch me morally." The motive, he said, was obviously political.

The row between the two most authoritative members of the Social Democrat Party, now bitterly divided over policy, burst on the scene at a particularly delicate moment in the month-old Government crisis, already complicated by the grave economic situation and revelations of fascist coup conspiracies.

The Prime Minister designate, Signor Moro, today reported to President Leone on the progress he has made so far in his attempt to form a government.

Only last night Signor Moro got the go-ahead from the secretary of his own Christian Democrat Party, Signor Fanfani, to carry on in his efforts to form a minority Christian Democrat Government with the parliamentary support of the Socialists and Republicans and without—if necessary—that of the Social Democrats.

The Social Democrats are still insisting on a full centre-left coalition, although earlier at-

### Britain does better in fight against inflation

From Our Own Correspondent  
Brussels, Nov 7

Comparing last September with September, 1973, Britain fared a good deal better than several other European Community member states on both the inflation and unemployment fronts, according to figures collated by the European Commission from national statistics and published here today.

Two of the countries most successful in combatting inflation, West Germany and Holland, were among those worst affected by unemployment, and West Germany had more out of work than Britain.

According to the figures, consumer prices rose in September, 1974, by the following percentages against the same month in 1973: Italy 20.3, Ireland 17.9, Denmark 16.6, Britain 15.8, Belgium 15.6, France 14.7, Luxembourg 10.6, Holland 10.3 and West Germany 7.3.

The equivalent figures for the increase in unemployment, seasonally adjusted, were as follows: Denmark 144.7, West Germany 131.7, Holland 32.1, Britain 20.2, Luxembourg 11.2, France 9.2, Belgium 9.1, Ireland 7.1.

Italy, which could provide only the August figures, was the sole country to register an improvement of 0.4 per cent, but this still left 999,600 unemployed. It thus had both the highest number of unemployed and the biggest increase in consumer prices.

### Spanish reaction to Rock disclosure

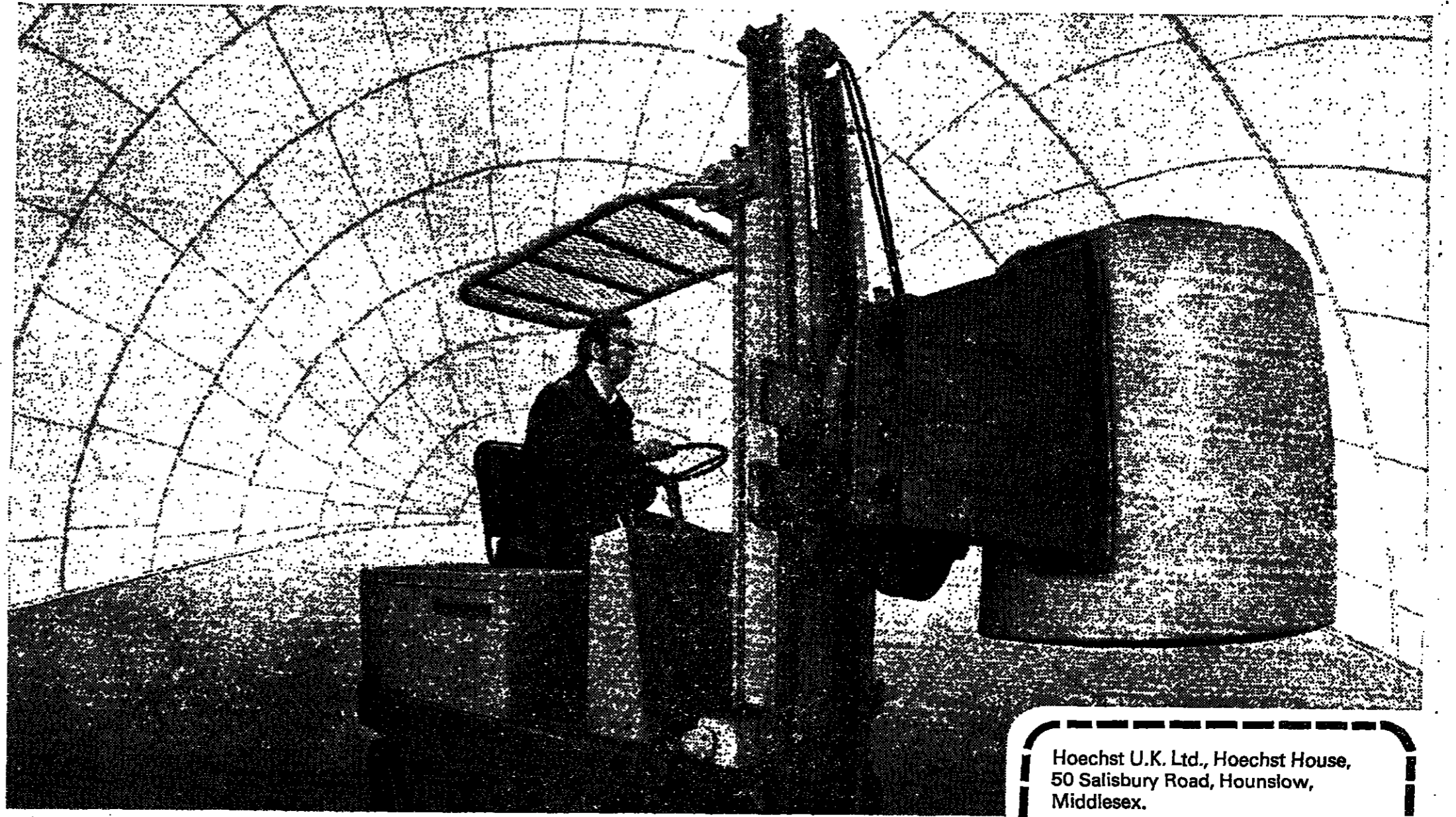
By A. M. Rendel

The disclosure in *The Times* by Sir Joshua Hassan, Chief Minister of Gibraltar, of Spanish proposals for a new regime on the Rock drew acid comment in Spanish quarters yesterday.

Sir Joshua is shown in the Spanish view, to have been less than frank. The decision to publish the proposals was taken, they believe, because the existence of the proposals became known in Gibraltar and Sir Joshua was under fire for saying nothing about his contact with a Spanish representative.

Spaniards also argue that the proposals are more favourable to Gibraltar than Sir Joshua made clear, or than the proposals themselves show, because the framework of law for Gibraltar would include existing international treaties.

One of these to be concluded before any new regime for Gibraltar took effect would be a treaty between Britain and Spain.



A Trevira air hall provides inexpensive storage space in Cambridge

## The rain comes in nearly every room—so do the rats

Jessie was bombed out of Coventry. That was a sudden horror, and she was much younger. Now she has to endure a continuing torment: rooms so dilapidated that rain penetrates nearly everywhere. And rats, which return despite rat poison. She finds it too hard to cope now that she is old and has heart trouble.

Your goodwill could help to transform life for Jessie and other brave old people. Your helping hand could change her despair to the joy of living in a simple flat designed for the needs of old people, where she will find friendship, a helpful warden, and the security of somewhere that is a real home. Where also a few social workers who have devoted their lives to others can retire within their means.

Multiply your gift. Every £2 you send provides £40 of housing for old people (because of loans it releases).

£150 names a flat in memory of someone dear to you, or inscribes their name on the Founder's Plaque of a Day Centre for the lonely. £250 names a double. Every day of waiting is another day of despair for the lonely—so please send your goodwill gift soon to:

The Hon. Treasurer,  
the Rt. Hon. Lord Maybray-King,  
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London W1A 2AP.

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WEST EUROPE

Aircraft lost bearings and 108 Britons died

From Alan McGregor Solothurn, Switzerland, Nov 7 A British charter aircraft which crashed into a hillside near Basle, Switzerland, in a bizarre last year killing 108 people had lost its bearings through navigational errors, a Swiss investigating team told a public inquiry here today.

Most of the dead were housewives from the West of England on a one-day shopping trip to a trade fair in Basle. There were defects in the aircraft's radio navigational equipment and this, combined with bad weather and poor reception of radio beacons, considerably impeded the work of the crew, the Swiss team's report said.

The two-day hearing is being conducted on the basis of a 400-page Swiss report which says that information from the flight Decca recorder was that the crew did not observe the proper instrument approach and overshoot procedures and lost their bearings in the Basle area. At least by implication, however, it also poses the question whether the pilots could not have been warned earlier by Basle Mulhouse airport that the Vanguard with its 139 passengers and six crew was off course and already south of the airport in proximity to rising ground. It was snowing, heavily with visibility at low height down to about 20 yards.

The analysis of the (flight Decca) recordings shows that navigational errors must have led to this loss of orientation, the report adds. "The bad meteorological conditions with the well-known reception of the medium-wave beacon and the defects in the aircraft's radio navigational equipment which existed previously impeded the work of the crew considerably."

Political pressures alleged in wine fraud trial

Bordeaux, Nov 7.—Political scores were being settled in the Bordeaux wine fraud trial, a lawyer told the court today. The court was hearing pleas for the 18 defendants charged with fraudulently adulterating or mislabelling Bordeaux wine. M Roland Dumas, for M Francois George, a wine dealer, alleged strong ministerial pressure in the case and a "political plot".

The trial is taking place five months after the presidential election in which M Jacques Chaban-Delmas, the former Prime Minister and mayor of Bordeaux, was eliminated in the first round as a Gaullist candidate and rival of M Giscard d'Estaing. M Chaban-Delmas had widespread support in his political field.

M Dumas, a Paris lawyer, went on: "At the time the facts (of the alleged fraud) were revealed in August, 1973, there were two wine fraud affairs, one in Burgundy and another in

"The installation was there before not checked. It could not be ascertained whether the crew of the aircraft were aware of this fault." At today's hearing the Swiss investigators described as regrettable the French authorities' refusal to permit the air controllers who had handled the aircraft that morning to be present at the hearing. They are being represented by their chief air controller.

This was apparently because the hearing is taking place outside France. While Basle-Mulhouse airport is in French territory it is operated jointly by the French and Swiss, with the latter being responsible for air control. A Swiss official said today he failed to understand the French attitude on this. "All the more so as it is not a judicial proceeding but a public hearing."

The report also says the investigation brought to light failures and discrepancies in the flying career of Captain A. N. Dornan, who acted as pilot in command on the flight from Bristol to Basle. "For example," it adds, "he did not pass the flying test to obtain the instrument rating until the ninth attempt in January, 1971. "His total flying experience could not be established, as the personal flight logs found contain a great number of discrepancies and are therefore to a large extent, unreliable."

Solothurn, Nov 7.—Relatives of the victims—from Axbridge, Cheddar, Yatton and Congresbury—were among about 150 people crowding a dimly-lit schoolroom hall where the inquiry was held. There were gasps of horror when a 10-minute colour film made by police at the crash scene showing mutilated bodies and dismembered limbs in bloodstained snow was projected for the commission.

The Swiss report said the aircraft made two landing approaches to Basle airport but turned away both times. During a third approach the crew reported they were north of Basle, but Basle air traffic controller told them by radio he thought they were south of the city.

OVERSEAS

Democrats' victory continues at state level

From Fred Emery Washington, Nov 7 With state legislature election returns, like aftershocks of the national upheaval, showing Democratic control running still deeper, President Ford today tried putting it all behind him.

It is the second anniversary of Mr Nixon's 1972 "lonely landslide" return to the White House, but Mr Ford was now depicted looking ahead. The budget, to be presented in January, is urgent. The diplomacy of his visit to the Far East in 10 days time needs active preparation for his meetings with Japanese, Korean and Soviet leaders.

There was also speculation, inevitably discounted, that he was considering inviting Democrats into his cabinet. Many of its members, inherited from his predecessor look and sound like Democrats. The lame duck one, is to reconvene while Mr Ford is in Japan. Senator Mansfield, Democratic majority leader in the upper chamber, has met Mr Ford to assure him that "co-operation is the word". He insisted, although he could hardly speak for it, that the new Congress would not be out to "demonstrate" Mr Ford.

All kinds of brave new worlds are depicted in utterances from leading Democrats. Congress will act if the President will not, said both Mr Robert Sikes, Democratic national committee chairman, and Mr Carl Albert, Speaker of the House, still directly in line to succeed the President should the vacancy occur before Mr Rockefeller is confirmed as Vice-President.

In fact, most Democrats recognize their new majorities as both opportunity and a threat. They were elected not for what they proposed but, largely, through disgust with the Nixonian mess, both Watergate and the economic decline.

Democrats know better than anyone that they have no coherent plan on anything. They face a prospect if they miss the opportunity to consolidate and cease partisanship. In a phrase, people here, as virtually everywhere, are fed up and want their leaders to lead instead of politicking.

The final party standings are being delayed by an extraordinarily close Senate race in North Dakota, Oklahoma and North Hampshire also face recounts. All are Republican.

In North Dakota they must now vote in the Senate and postal ballots to decide the incumbent, Senator Milton Young, is in various reports given a lead of between four and 16 with all Tuesday's vote counted.

Assuming all Republicans hold on, the Senate Democratic majority would be 61-39, three short of a net gain of three, although it represents an electoral gain of four over 1972. The close governor's race in Alaska is also waiting the count from all far-flung villages in that wilderness.

However, the Republican debacle in the House of Representatives (with a loss of 44 seats) is matched by similar changes in the state legislatures. Today the Republicans are left in control of both houses in only five of the 50 states—down from 16 after the 1972 election.

This is the worst since their 1938 nadir, and it means they lose control of vital patronage appointments and state government levers, seen here as vital for rebuilding the party's organization.

Among these state results, Democrats took control of both chambers in Illinois, Delaware and even a farm stronghold like Iowa. Only in Mr McGovern's South did the Republicans make a gain in local legislative control.

Maine will have the best chance to try proving the system of checks and balances works at state level. They have decided a Republican senate, a Democratic house and an Independent governor.

The sweeping Democratic gains in the House of Representatives have come in all main population regions and have been attributed to sharp vote switches. The Democrats gained 15 congressmen in the Middle West and won back nine in the South, where Republicans had been gaining ground since 1952, even though Louisiana defied the trend by adding another Republican.

Return of children denied to British mother

From Our Correspondent Melbourne, Nov 7

A Supreme Court judge in Melbourne has ordered the immediate return to Britain of two children who are the centre of a custody battle. Mr Justice Harris has been told by Mr Maurice Curwicz, acting for Mrs Maureen V. Sutherland, the former wife of Mr David Norman Sutherland, that the father had taken the children—11, aged 9, and David aged 8—out of the custody of their English mother.

His client had been granted custody of the children under a High Court consent order, Mr Curwicz said. Mr Sutherland told the court that he brought the children to Australia last June "for their own well-being". "They were quite adamant that they wanted to stay here," Mr Sutherland said. He told the court that the children had been living in Melbourne with their father and stepmother, using



Mr Andreas Papandreu, leader of the Panhellenic Socialist Movement Party, greets Miss Melina Mercouri, the actress, who is one of his candidates.

Monarchy election issue in Greece

From Our Correspondent Athens, Nov 7

The future of the monarchy in Greece is becoming one of the principal issues in the election campaign as constitutional parties try to force Mr Constantine Karamanlis, the Prime Minister, to commit himself publicly for or against the return of the King to his throne.

Mr Karamanlis and his New Democracy Party, which includes both royalists and republicans, has so far evaded the issue and avoided disunity before the elections. The Prime

Minister has been urging the parties to avoid the constitutional issue as the people would decide on it by referendum before the end of the year.

A constitutional decree passed last month ruled that the referendum on the monarchy must be held within 45 days of the general elections, which are due on November 17. The other main Greek parties—the Centre Union, the Socialist Movement and the Communist Party—already have declared themselves in favour of a republic.

Mr Karamanlis' refusal to be drawn into the argument gave rise to leftist assertions that there was a plan to scrap the referendum and impose the monarchy after the elections. Professor Andreas Papandreu, leader of the Panhellenic Socialist Movement, in fact launched the campaign slogan: "Which Constantine are you

being asked to vote for" in an allusion to the exiled King Constantine and Mr Karamanlis' Christian name.

Now Mr George Pavros, leader of the Centre Union, who was deputy Premier and Foreign Minister in Mr Karamanlis' first Cabinet, and counter-signing the constitutional decree on the referendum, has challenged Mr Karamanlis and his party to make clear their views on the monarchy.

Speaking to correspondents in Patras after a campaign speech last night, Mr Pavros said that nothing could prevent the next Parliament from abolishing the constitutional decree, calling off the referendum and imposing its own solution on the question of the monarchy. Mr Karamanlis himself has indicated to close friends that he does not believe the King stands any chance of returning to Greece.

Terrorists defy state of siege in Argentina

Buenos Aires, Nov 7.—Guerrillas today defied the drastic state of siege imposed by President Isabel Peron. They murdered an Army officer, destroyed military vehicles and seized a railway station.

The state of siege was decreed yesterday as Señora Peron's ultimate weapon against the terrorism which has Argentina edging towards chaos. Major Hector Lopez was shot dead in Santa Fe, 300 miles north of here. A terrorist group opened fire on the officer, who was stepping into a military vehicle guarded by several soldiers.

Other guerrillas set fire to some 20 Army buses parked in a factory ground just north of Buenos Aires. A third guerrilla operation took over the Avellaneda railway station. A guerrilla group, saying it belonged to the outlawed People's Revolutionary Army (ERP), distributed literature and spray-painted the station with revolutionary slogans.

The incidents were all in the style of the ERP which has declared it would kill 14 to 16 Army officers in reprisal for the alleged murders of a similar number of guerrillas captured in August. It offered a truce to the Government recently in exchange for captured members.

Señora Peron rejected the truce. Under the state of siege, security forces can arrest suspects at will and hold them without trial. People can be banished to remote corners of the country and public meetings are banned.—A.P.

Court to consider filming Mr Nixon's evidence

From Our Own Correspondent Washington, Nov 7

The court hearing the Watergate cover-up trial was told today that Mr Richard Nixon would be unable to take part in "any activity requiring substantial mental or physical effort" for two to three months.

Mr Herbert Miller, Mr Nixon's lawyer, who submitted a four-page memorandum on the former President's health, argued further that "it will be an indeterminate time before he has recovered sufficiently to travel any significant distance".

The numerous lawyers involved in the case were saying 10 days ago that the trial might be over by Christmas. That would seem less likely now, but it is clear that it will finish within the two or three months mentioned by Mr Miller. Judge John Sirica, who is

hearing the case, mentioned the possibility that Mr Nixon might be interrogated by a representative of the court in California, and that a film of the interview might then be shown to the court.

Mr Miller would undoubtedly oppose such a suggestion, on the ground that Mr Nixon will not be fit enough to face a sustained cross-examination. The defendants who have subpoenaed him, will presumably argue that a sustained and thorough examination of the former President is essential to their case.

Mr John Ehrlichman, one of the defendants, who used to be Mr Nixon's chief adviser on domestic affairs, has already called for a mistrial on the ground that his defence is irretrievably prejudiced by Mr Nixon's unavailability as a witness.

Royal Navy team ends bomb disposal task in Suez Canal

By Henry Stanhope Defence Correspondent

The Royal Navy's task group which has been carrying out a bomb disposal job on the Suez Canal for the past seven months, sailed from Alexandria yesterday, its job completed.

Its task has been to help clear the canal of the deadly ordnance which has accumulated there over nearly eight years of Arab-Israeli conflict. Wilton, Bossington and Maston began to prepare for the canal's reopening.

There can be no guarantee that all the explosives have now been cleared, because a number of shells and bombs are feared to be deeply embedded in the sandy bottom. But these will probably come to light during dredging operations.

The task group has consisted of 260 men, under the command of Commander David Husband, four vessels—the command ship Abdiel and the minehunters Wilton, Bossington and Maston—and a fleet clearance diving team.

Mrs Hart defends British food aid role

From Peter Nichols Rome, Nov 7

The British case had chance of a second hearing, the World Food Conference here today with the arrival of Mrs Judith Hart, Minister Overseas Development—who was all to the good as there had been some feeling that stronger statements were required of British intentions.

However the rule that one minister could address only one session meant that Mrs Hart would have been limited to speaking in one of the committees. Committee statements must be brief and factual, avoiding general survey. But Mrs Hart managed to circumvent this restriction by speaking twice: she spoke at the British Embassy and planned brief contribution to the committee discussions tomorrow.

Her main point is that British role for the developing countries was to help them grow food for themselves. She sees land reform and distribution of income, as well as the provision of food itself, as essential elements in development. She found excessive assumption of proteins in countries "personally of size". This was an attitude, she said, increasingly shared by young people in Britain.

She gallantly set out answer criticisms that the of "something like 25,000 tons of fertilizer over the next 10 years" made yesterday in plenary session by Mr F. Peart, the Minister of Agriculture, was unimpressive.

She enlarged on the role she saw it of British help. Britain was a net importer of fertilizers, the most effective aid that could be given in the field was to use money know-how in helping developing countries to produce their own fertilizer.

Since 1970, she pointed out, Britain had committed more than £25m in helping to build three fertilizer factories of which would be one next week by Mrs Gandhi, Indian Prime Minister.

This more practical sphere in fact marked much the day. The Americans set pace of such a departure by producing two real farmers' inspection and interrogation of the press.

Mr J. Merrill Anderson, president of the Iowa Bureau of Extension, was instructive and the same time properly down-to-earth: "While we talk all the need for increased production in both the developed and the developing nations, we talk frankly about who is going to pay for it."

American farmers, he went on, had a number of questions to ask about increased production to meet the food needs of their domestic customers: customers round the world. It is extremely expensive to produce food in the United States requiring a substantial investment in land and machinery; rapidly rising seed, pesticide, fertilizer expenses.

Mr Harold B. Steele, president of the Illinois Farm Bureau gave assurances that farmers America were "in sympathy with the hungry of the world. In fact, their attitude went beyond sympathy "because producing food is our livelihood

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French call for a 'releasing of the brakes'

From Our Own Correspondent Paris, Nov 7

M Francois Ceyrac, president of the French employers' federation, called in a television interview today for "releasing of the brakes before it is too late".

The postal strike, he said, had occurred when the state of the economy had taken a sharp turn for the worse. It had cut off firms completely from their customers and their banks.

M Chirac, the Prime Minister, issued a grave warning about the damage to the economy of the present wave of labour unrest. The consequences can be very serious for the country and the wage earners themselves", he said. Strikes continued to spread, however, especially on the railways.

The postal workers' strike, now in its twenty-first day, shows no sign of coming to an end. The latest proposals, submitted by the Post Office yesterday, were rejected.

Nine agree to clean up major rivers

From Our Own Correspondent Brussels, Nov 7

As part of the European Community's anti-pollution campaign, EEC member states today agreed to improve the quality of their river water over the next 10 years. The aim is to reduce pollution levels in such rivers as the Rhine, the Seine and the Thames so that their waters can be used more safely for drinking purposes.

Meeting in Brussels, environment ministers of the Nine adopted new legislation defining maximum pollution levels in surface waters and setting a long wrangle between the Benelux countries and the West Germans and the French.

The Dutch, who calculate that it will cost more than £300m a year to purify the Rhine, the Meuse and the Scheldt for drinking purposes, wanted a firm commitment from their two large neighbours that they would bear much of the cost.

Damning report on French oil company practices

From Our Own Correspondent Paris, Nov 7

The parliamentary committee which was set up last June on a proposal of M Georges Marais, the Communist leader, to investigate the practices of oil companies in France has produced a highly damaging report.

It asserts that the oil companies take great liberties with the rules of the market and the laws of the land, they pay practically no tax; cheat on information regarding their prices and access to crude oil; carve up the market among themselves; and behave towards the state almost as a "sovereign to vassal".

On the creation of industrial cartels, the report finds the two French oil companies even more enterprising than foreign companies. They even acted as a screen for the subsidiaries of foreign firms.

that "the oil industry does not give the example of an activity which opens itself spontaneously to investigation". The Rapporteur asserts that the Compagnie Francaise des Petroles (CFP) and the Entreprise de Recherches et d'Activites Petrolieres (ELF) paid no company tax in France and their subsidiaries have even recovered two-thirds of what they had paid in taxes.

On the creation of industrial cartels, the report finds the two French oil companies even more enterprising than foreign companies. They even acted as a screen for the subsidiaries of foreign firms.

The conclusion of the report is that control of the oil companies by the state is inadequate. No government department entirely covers the activities of ELF, for instance.

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# Mrs Havers' defence of Kissinger pressed British aid role decision in Rabat

Eric Marsden  
Jerusalem, Nov 7

Kissinger, the American Secretary of State, arrived here for the first time since he left to be met by urgent inquiries from his hosts over an apparent shift in American Middle East policy since the summit meeting at Rabat. Leaders have interpreted Kissinger's remarks by President Ford and official spokesmen as indicating a move towards recognition of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) as a negotiator over the West Bank and Gaza.

The Israeli Cabinet had earlier passed discrepancies between Ford's statements and those of American officials. Mr Alon, Foreign Minister, expressed concern at the President's reference to the Palestinians and they would be taken up by Dr Kissinger.

At the airport Dr Kissinger stated that there had been a change in Middle East policy during his visit. Israel ministers were seeking amplification of this assurance tonight at a dinner in the home of Mr Rabin, the Prime Minister.

The status of the PLO in the light of the Rabat summit decision was expected to be the topic of talks lasting into early hours.

Mr Alon described the decision as a "counter-revolution" to achieving peace. Kissinger renewed his pledge to the United States would be peace on a step by step basis.

Earlier this week President Ford said that Israel should negotiate "with either Jordan or the PLO".

As he was described by American officials as a slip of the tongue, but yesterday Mr Rabin, the President's press spokesman said Mr Ford stood by the statement. Asked to clarify this, Mr Nessen said the

United States "recognizes that full consideration must be given to the legitimate interests of the Palestinian people if there is to be a just and durable settlement in the Middle East". The United States would try to assist the parties to get negotiations started.

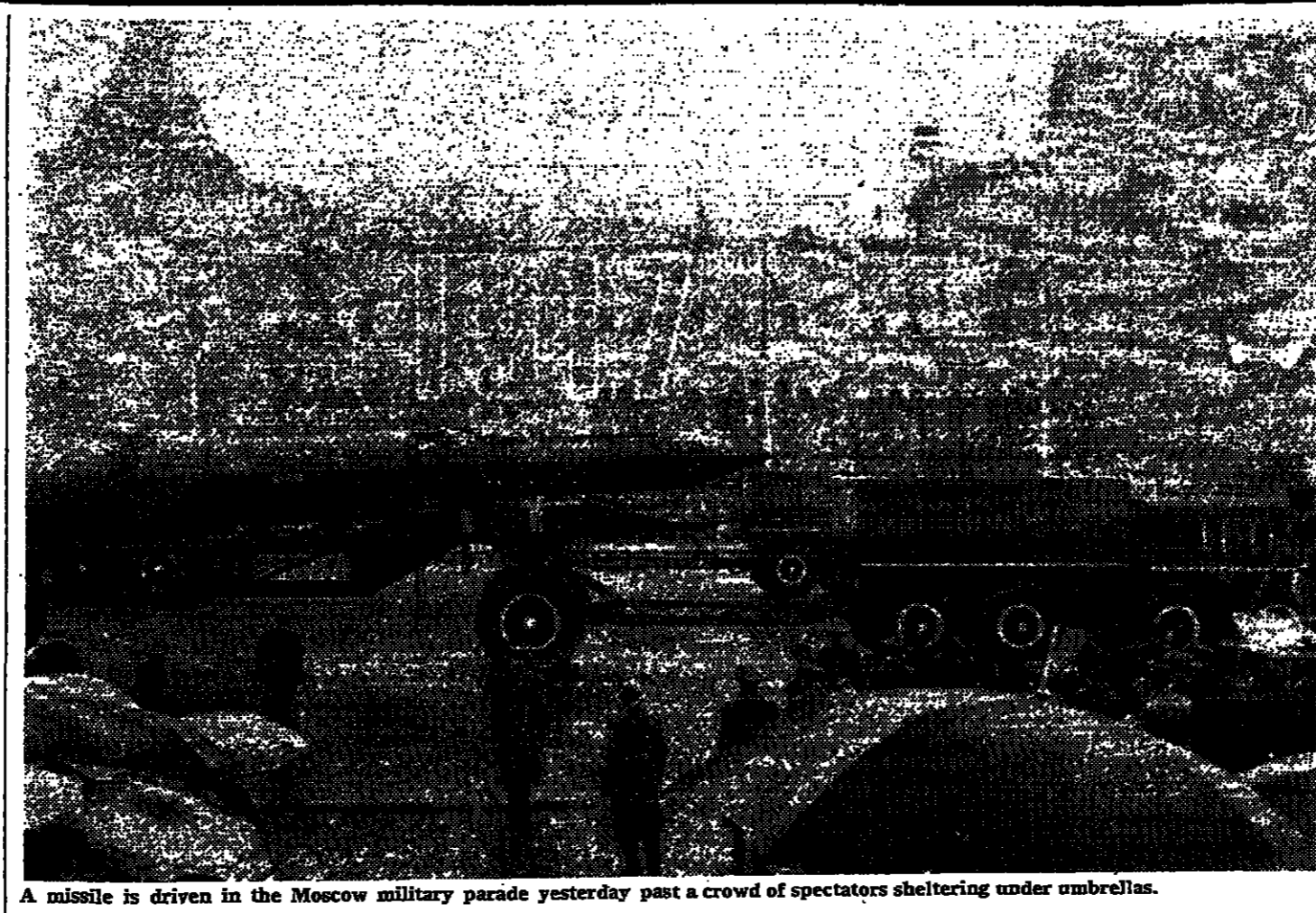
The Israeli Embassy in Washington claimed subsequently that American officials had denied that the statement represented any change of policy and had said that the United States had, neither in the past "or today", asked Israel to negotiate with the PLO.

Mr Rabin emphasized in the Knesset this week that Israel rejected totally the idea of negotiations with terrorists. Dr Kissinger is known to have come under pressure in Arab capitals to try to persuade Israel to modify its stand towards the PLO, and in view of King Husain's insistence that Jordan has dropped out of the peace negotiations, he has little alternative but to seek some formula to soften Israel's line. His chances of success are small.

Some commentators here, by microscopic analysis of Mr Rabin's Knesset speech, have implied that he may have left some room for manoeuvre to name the PLO when he said that Israel "will not negotiate with terrorist organizations". The whole context of his speech, however, was a denunciation of the PLO and, in his reference to the Rabat summit, he accused Arab leaders of giving responsibility for the establishment of a Palestinian state to "organizations of murderers".

This seems to rule out reconsideration of the compromise suggested to the cabinet before Mr Rabin's visit. The Information Minister said Israel should agree to negotiate with any party that recognized it as a sovereign state and which renounced intentions of destroying it.

The Secretary of State planned an 18-hour stay in Israel before heading for Tunisia and then home.



A missile is driven in the Moscow military parade yesterday past a crowd of spectators sheltering under umbrellas.

# Peking's anniversary overture to Moscow

Moscow, Nov 7.—China told the Soviet Union today that they should hold talks aimed at the conclusion of a non-aggression treaty and the separation of forces in disputed border areas.

The proposals were made in a message from Peking to Soviet leaders, marking today's fifty-seventh anniversary of the Soviet Revolution, according to official Chinese sources in Moscow.

The Kremlin frequently has asserted that China consistently rejected or ignored Soviet proposals for a non-aggression pact, and Chinese officials have indicated that they regarded the suggestion as "Russian hypocrisy".

However, the Peking message, as translated into Russian by the Chinese sources, said the idea was part of a mutual understanding reached at a meeting in September, 1969, between Mr Chou En-lai, the Chinese Prime Minister, and Mr Kosygin, his Soviet counterpart.

The message—seen as the most conciliatory known to have come from Peking to Moscow in recent years—also pledged that the Chinese Government would bend all efforts "to defend the revolutionary friendship" between the two peoples.

The message repeated assertions in past revolutionary anniversary messages from China to the Soviet Union that differences of principle between the two countries should not hinder the normalization of inter-state relations.

It also said: "Above all, the mutual understanding achieved in September, 1969, at the meeting of the prime ministers of the two states—that an agreement should be signed on non-aggression, non-use of force, maintenance of the status quo on the frontiers, the prevention of military conflicts and clashes, the separation of forces in disputed regions, and the solution of all frontier questions through talks—should be adhered to."

The message, which was not immediately reported by Soviet news media, appeared to mark a basic shift in official Peking attitudes to Moscow.

Since 1969, the two countries have been intermittently discussing their differences over the border question at talks in Peking, but both sides have reported no progress. The talks are believed to have been in suspense since the summer, when Mr Leonid Ilyichev, the Soviet chief negotiator, returned to Moscow.—Reuter.

Edmund Stevens writes from Moscow: For the first time, the traditional civilian march past to celebrate the fifty-seventh anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution was cancelled today because of the rain.

The military parade was held as usual. Braving the wet and cold weather and the risk of pneumonia, Mr Leonid Brezhnev, the party leader, led the members of the Politburo up the steps to the parapet of the Lenin mausoleum, which like everything else in Red Square had been thoroughly rejuvenated.

Marshal Andrei Grechko, the Minister of Defence, delivered his customary brief opening address. This time it was devoid of military bombast. The emphasis was on peaceful co-existence in foreign policy and on the progress of the Soviet economy.

Leading article, page 17

# 'I can't face my future'

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# Ankara visit cancelled in view of Turkish crisis

On Our Correspondent  
Ankara, Nov 7

The Turkish Government crisis which has been simmering for nearly two months came to head today, resulting in the cancellation of Dr Henry Kissinger's one-day visit to Turkey.

An American Secretary of State was to have arrived here tomorrow.

Bulent Ecevit, the outgoing Prime Minister, told reporters after a 90-minute meeting with President Koru that he had asked to be relieved of the task of forming a new government.

Under these conditions, said "I'm afraid that Secretary of State Kissinger's visit will not be able to take place."

After Mr Ecevit blamed the cancellation of the Kissinger visit on the conservative National Salvation Party, his new coalition partners.

Nicosia Correspondent  
The search for a solution to the Cyprus crisis has been complicated in the past 24 hours as a result of conflicting statements by Archbishop Makarios and President Glafkos Clerides. The two Greek Cypriot leaders took opposite views on the merits of a federal system based on a geographic division.

In an interview with an Italian magazine, which was also published here this morning, the Archbishop stated: "I shall never accept a federation based on a geographic basis."

In contrast, Mr Clerides, in a remarkably frank exposition of the Cyprus problem at a Nicosia public meeting last night, urged Greek Cypriots to accept such a solution as the only way to reach a negotiated settlement.

This was the first time that Mr Clerides publicly urged such a realistic approach. If he had made such a statement before the Turkish invasion of last July he would have been branded a traitor by the majority of Greek Cypriots.

# South African ministers speak of need for reform in racial policies

From Michael Knipe  
Cape Town, Nov 7

South Africa's ruling Nationalist Party has begun, for the first time, to speak of the need for reform in its racial policies.

The Deputy Minister of Bantu Administration suggested it was time that "unnecessary irritating legislation, which was necessary in its time", should be removed from the statute books.

Mr van der Merwe, the Minister for Coloured Affairs, emphasised the need to get rid of outworn practices.

The Government's opponents have been impressed by the radical change of emphasis among the Nationalist Party leaders. When Mr Botha, the leader of the party in the Cape, described the people classified as Coloured as "brown South Africans" and said that "they share such things as cultural amenities with decent Coloured people is no threat to anyone", his words were described as startling.

Very few cultural amenities are shared at present. The ministers all emphasised, however, that they were not abandoning their faith in the Republic's apartheid policies.

Mr Botha said he was not ashamed of apartheid, "but if it is implemented with clumsy fingers and heavy hands, it can lead to South Africa's going under".

Dr Muller spoke of the seriousness of South Africa's position at the United Nations and gave a warning that world attitudes towards the Republic had sharpened as a result of the collapse of Portugal's policy in Africa. However, he contended that the Republic's reputation for oppression and violation of human dignity was largely due to a misconception of South Africa's policies.

Leading article, page 17

# Simonstown to be trebled in capacity

From Our Own Correspondent  
Cape Town, Nov 7

South Africa is embarking on an extension of the Simonstown naval base which will treble its capacity.

When the extension has been completed in about five years, the harbour will be able to berth between 40 and 50 ships. The cost is estimated at about £10m.

The decision to go ahead with the plan has been taken in the belief that whatever the outcome of the British Government's review of the Simonstown agreement, the base will still play an important role in the defence of the Cape sea route, according to government sources.

The French destroyer Tourville sailed into Cape Town harbour yesterday to a 21-gun salute.

# 0 casualties feared in new Angola violence

Luanda, Nov 7.—Violence erupted by intermittent spitting, erupted near the university hospital in a Luanda suburb last night. According to police radio and newspaper reports, up to 50 people were injured.

Meanwhile, Dr Mario Soares, Portuguese Foreign Minister, met today secretly a representative of the Angolan insurgents in Tunis. The nationalist negotiator said a preliminary agreement had been reached to hold further talks on the decolonisation of the African territory.

Dr Soares conferred for two hours on neutral ground in the Lusitan Foreign Ministry with Johnny Edouardo of the Angolan National Liberation Front. "Our talk was absolutely frank," Mr Edouardo said after the talks.

The trouble in the Angolan capital started when a white man was slashed and beaten to death by a gang of Africans yesterday. Firing broke out as soldiers went into the area where the incident occurred to fetch his body. One soldier was killed by automatic fire. The exact number of dead is not immediately known, as troops, called in to restore order, had not yet collected all of the bodies.

Luanda representatives of two of the three main Angolan liberation movements deplored the violence. Mr Herminio Escorico, representative of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola, told reporters that the trouble was "the work of bandits who are relics of colonialism".

A commander of the Portuguese counter-insurgency troops sent in to clear the slum area where the incidents occurred, said those responsible used automatic carbines, grenades, plastic explosives and machine pistols.

Four hundred prisoners, arrested in the previous waves of violence in Luanda, have recently been released from the São Nicolau penal colony in southern Angola, and many who escaped from Luanda's prison in June are still at large.

Spokesmen for police, military authorities and liberation movements suggested that the recently released prisoners might be among those responsible for last night's violence.

The latest outbreak of violence came hard on the heels of the disturbances of Tuesday night in which two people were killed and several wounded.—Reuter and UPI.

# Police assault on detained Africans alleged

From Our Correspondent  
Pretoria, Nov 7

Allegations of "brutal assault" on detainees by the security police were the subject of an application to the Supreme Court. The application was for an order restraining the police during the period of detention from assaulting the five people named, interrogating them in any manner other than that prescribed and permitted by law, employing any undue or unlawful pressure on them or subjecting them to any form of unlawful duress.

The names of those on whose behalf this order is sought are: Mr Lindiwe Mabandla, aged 29, former vice-president of the South African Students' Organization and a member of the Black People's Convention; Mr Sathasivan Cooper, aged 22, former public relations officer of the Black People's Convention; Mr Revabalan Cooper, aged 22; Mr Mosiuoa Lekota, aged 28, who was permanent organizer of the South African Students' Organization at the time of his arrest in September; and Mr Munru Myeza, secretary-general of the South African Students' Organization.

The application to the Supreme Court is being brought in the case of four of the men by their fathers and for one by his fiancée.

In an affidavit Mr S. M. Chetty, a lawyer, states that he saw Mr Sathasivan Cooper on October 22. When they were alone Mr Cooper said: "There are many detainees who are being brutally assaulted by the special branch."

It is alleged that Mr Mabandla and Mr Revabalan Cooper were most severely assaulted, that neither of them could walk, and that Mr Cooper's knee was "busted".

Counsel for the Minister of the Police and the Commission of Police submitted that Mr Chetty's evidence was discredited.

A doctor had visited the detainees on various occasions, one on the morning of the application and found no evidence of physical or emotional assault. A senior magistrate had also visited them twice and there was only one complaint of assault which the complainant later declined to press further.

The judgment is expected on Monday.

Our Cape Town Correspondent writes: "The security police carried out several raids early today arresting and detaining black people under the Terrorism Act."

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# Marcos regime plans to hold referendum

Manila, Nov 7.—President Marcos of the Philippines plans to hold a referendum in January to pronounce on his two-year-old martial law regime, the presidential palace said last night.

It added that Mr Marcos extended to hold a referendum on a regular basis every January in order to continue "the open dialogue between the president and the governor" according to the palace the president last Sunday told visit officials of the Chase Manhattan Bank that the Government "will submit its entire program to a vote by the people".—Agence France Press.

# Destitutes throng Bangladesh camp

From Michael Hornsby  
Mirpur, Bangladesh, Nov 7

At the Mirpur relief camp, about 10 miles outside Dacca, some 3,000 destitute peasants are waiting for the autumn rice harvest to get under way so that they can return to the fields from which they were driven by hunger and lack of work.

Many of the inmates are skeleton cases—particularly the more recent arrivals—and the percentage of small children among the most severely emaciated is high. Dysentery is common and there is a pervasive stench. The camp is set among the half-completed buildings of an abandoned soap factory, which form a rough square round a feud pond. There are also some open-sided makeshift shelters.

Hundreds of families huddle on straw mats with their few belongings, usually no more than a battered tin food bowl or two, and perhaps a bundle of rags; but grim as the conditions are, they are preferable to being left to starve on the streets of Dacca.

For breakfast, the camp inmates get some biscuits, a little milk and a rot, a thin flat round piece of bread. For lunch there are two rot, supplemented by a thin vegetable gruel, and in the evening some more milk.

Several wells have been sunk in the camp to provide more or less fresh water and a doctor pays a visit twice a day. So far, according to the camp superintendent, there have been no cases of cholera, which has taken some thousands of lives throughout the country in recent months.

Every day for the past two months the Dacca city authorities have sent out 10 lorries with orders to pick up people from the rural areas.

Mr Sayed Rezaul Hayat, the Deputy Commissioner of Dacca, said: "There was a tremendous influx of people from the rural areas about 3,000 to 4,000 a day, after the floods in July and August. They lived in the railway stations and in the streets."

Most of these people were landless peasants, who depend for their livelihood on what they can earn as labourers during the sowing and harvesting seasons, which were badly disrupted by the floods this year; and work in the fields was hard to find.



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SPORT

# Some tour facts to ponder in case England expects

John Woodcock  
Correspondent  
Sydney, Nov 7

of the possession of a good wicket spinner. Had MCC had one of these they would probably already have beaten South Australia. As things are, to break the deadlock we may have to wait for a helpful pitch, as at Rawlins, or weak opposition, as at Hobart, or the tensions of a Test match, or a generous declaration, or a sudden flash of unwonted brilliance, which several of Denness's side himself included, have it in them to produce.

As it happens, it could be that Victoria will provide MCC with their first victory over one of the five Sheffield Shield sides since South Australia were beaten after a declaration in December, 1965. They have only one top-class batsman in Redpath—Staples, Sheahan and Lawry all played for Victoria before their retirement—and only one present Test bowler in Walker, although Higgs, who took 11 wickets in helping them beat West Indies in the first Test, is obviously a threat. Higgs is a leg spinner, like Jenner, who alone of the South Australian bowlers, had MCC's batsmen in much trouble last weekend.

After much more rain than usual, spread over many weeks, the pitch at the Melbourne Cricket Ground is sure to be slow. So far this season the fast bowlers, Lillee included, have at times been reaching the wicketkeeper on the first bounce. The ball is expected to turn later in the match, though never at any pace.

Denness, unfortunately, is still feeling the after-effects of the attack of flu which kept him out of the first game at Port Lincoln. After blood tests and an X-ray examination today, the doctor says that, although there would seem to be nothing much the matter, it would be wiser for him not to play tomorrow. He would probably have missed one state match before the first Test anyway. On MCC's last tour Illingworth, then

the captain, missed the match against New South Wales which follows this one, through being run down. By Brisbane he was fit again.

In Denness's case there will be no need to worry if the antibiotics which have been prescribed achieve their purpose. He was in good form tonight at the reception which the Victorian Cricket Association traditionally give when MCC first arrive in Melbourne. This was a delightful occasion with the Ponsford's mixing with the Poms and the speeches striking just the right note.

Amis is fit to play for MCC, but not to field away from the bat, for fear of throwing his arm out again. There were news this morning, in sunshine and on reasonably good pitches, and if the people of Warrnambool could have heard how much the party seem to have enjoyed yesterday's visit there they would be delighted. As MCC's aircraft took off from Warrnambool, with the locals waving farewell, I had the same kind of feeling when, on the way to Australia in the fifties, our ship sailed away from the Cocos Islands after dropping the provisions. Next time to Australia it would be good to go far into the outback, perhaps to Tennant Creek or Alice Springs, on a cricketing mission.

MCC: D. L. Amis, D. Lloyd, J. R. Edrich (captain), K. W. R. Fletcher, B. W. Luckhurst, A. W. Greig, A. P. E. Knott, F. J. Titmus, G. G. Arnold, P. Lever, R. C. D. Willis.

VICTORIA: I. R. Redpath (captain), R. Baldry, R. Bright, J. D. Higgs, R. Nicholls, J. W. Scholes, A. J. Steier, L. Stidman, G. Tamblyn, A. L. Thomson, M. H. N. Walker, G. Yallop.

PROBNA: West Indies, 333 for 5 dec. R. Richards 102 not out. G. G. Greenidge 60: West Zone, 55 for wkt.

## Rugby Union

# All Blacks players of dubious pedigree

From Peter West  
Rugby Correspondent  
Limerick, Nov 7

After their indifferent start against Combined Universities in Cork yesterday the All Blacks can be under no illusions about the threat posed by their next opponents, Munster, here on Saturday. Seven internationals have been picked for the Munster side, although Moss Keane, the Irish lock, is a doubtful starter because of a shoulder injury sustained in training. Brendan Foley, of Shannon, is standing by.

The All Blacks themselves will be fielding what is virtually their strongest side. The captain and number eight, Leslie, the lock, Whiting, and the wing, Eatty, will be their only players who appeared yesterday. Whiting bruised a thigh in that game and missed today's training. The prop, Lambert, was also missing with some shoulder trouble. One of the new flankers, Knight, who is a doctor, went with them for physiotherapy treatment at hospital.

The manager, Noel Stanley, says that he expects Whiting to be fit for Saturday's match. On yesterday's evidence, Whiting needs all the match practice he can get. The Universities effectively cluttered up his line-out activities, but he hardly got off the ground for a proper jump at last night.

The All Blacks began their training visit to the new National College of Education in Limerick by closing themselves in a changing room for well over an hour. Their coach, John Stewart, is an extremely conversationalist, but it is presumed that he was in consistently good voice on the subject of yesterday's trials, most notably the quite uncharacteristic performance at ruck and maul.

These, of course, are early days, and there are certain extenuating circumstances for a below-par performance. But a short tour is a crash programme, and the All Blacks, now facing a series of hard

## Two productions: best all-round woman in the world and best all-round book

# Looking beyond the winning post

Miss Peters, though born in England, has lived in Belfast since she was 11. First she learned to accept the bitter sectarian strife and then, as she rose to the top in sport, even as the bloodshed increased, she was determined to do what little she could to heal the breach between Catholic and Protestant. As she reveals in this book for the first time, she felt she could avoid being biased after her gradual conversion to atheism from the time of her mother's early death. She is happy to say that she and her coach, Buster McShane, were made "as welcome Catholics" in the Shankill Road as in the Catholic Falls. I try to help young or old people in any way that can unite our community.

Even in the moment of triumph in Munich when she won the pentathlon, the shadow reached out from Belfast with a death threat to her telephoned via the BBC. Some three hours later the Israeli team's headquarters were invaded and murder took place in the Olympic village. Mary Peters, at first surrounded by security, still returned early to Belfast for a ticker-tape parade.

Only a few months later Euster McShane, the coach whose dynamism meant so much to her, was killed in a car accident. Left on her own it was typical of Miss Peters's determination that she decided to train alone for her final appearance at the Commonwealth Games because it was something she could win both for Euster and for Northern Ireland's own team. I still remember that she ended that last pentathlon of her career by walking across the Christchurch stadium to greet some cheerboard paraplegic competitors.

This is a moving story about an ordinary athlete who matured through handicaps and hardship, but also great good humour, to become the best all-round woman athlete in the world. I do not agree with Mary about the unimportance of a team captain in athletics—she felt differently herself, once— and her fulsome praise of team manager, Mares Hartman, may be overdone. Mares Hartman may be remembered for the way Miss Peters has recently tried to enhance her professional career since retirement from amateur athletics. There are times when what are supposed to be Miss Peters's own words into a tape recorder hear too intrusively the stamp of Woodridge's typewriter keys. For all the human warmth of the book I would have preferred the technical and statistical information, though the 18 pages of photographs are a rich bonus.

But how far ahead of the usual "ghosted" sporting biography is this successful collaboration. Woodridge has written with the same skill with which he administers dry Martinis, and Mary Peters talked with the same gusto with which she has often told the latest Rabelaisian tale to all "you lovely, bad fellas in the press".

Neil Allen

## Playing the game by the rules

Until recently I was unaware that my knowledge of sport lacked such information as the inversion rule in Boules or the duration of a paddlesball match. Nobody had asked me and I am not expecting them to do so, which is a great pity because I know the answers, or at least know where to find them, having acquired a remarkably ambitious book called Rules of the Game (Paddington Press Ltd, £6.95). It is otherwise described as "The Complete Illustrated Encyclopedia of all the Sports of the World" which is one of its less accurate statements.

The book, which weighs three pounds (an important point if your do-it-yourself bookshelves are as uncertain as mine), contains the illustrated rules of over 150 sports and games and is being published in both Britain and America. It would seem that more copies are expected to end up on the American coffee tables than in private libraries of England. It is a book to have rather than read—invaluable on those rare occasions when you want to know the weight of a javelin or when junior has been set a project on some esoteric pastime. In those terms, I would dare suggest that it is the best guide ever produced and certainly the most colourful and beautifully presented.

The immediate temptation is to turn to a subject about which one has some personal knowledge and look for mistakes despite the fact that the publishers explain that they received information from the official governing bodies of the sports concerned. In the process of reading and presentation of that information, it was inevitable that the pedantic reader would have room to be critical. But the whole aim of the book is to explain, visually if possible, the rules of sports about which you may know nothing.

The second temptation is to think of some obscure game or sport, perhaps peculiar to England, and England has a lot of peculiar sports, and be offended when not finding it mentioned. This would be unfair if the editors had not made themselves vulnerable by using the indefensible phrase "the complete encyclopedia". If there are 150 sports on the 320 pages, there must be another 150 unmentioned others being played somewhere in the world.

Slight confusion is caused by the frequent use of Americanisms though these rarely hinder and the diagrams solve most of the doubts. In fact, I found the diagrams by far the most interesting aspect of the book, especially on those subjects which seem to have won popularity primarily through exposure on television. This applied to show jumping, moto-cross, but not professional wrestling which, presumably and rightly in my view, was not considered a sport. The growing sports, squash and gymnastics, for instance, are well and precisely covered, but the editors have not caught up with one of the latest and most interesting sports inventions, hang-gliding. Karate and its relations, except the current rage, Kang Fu, are there for the trend followers.

Obviously, the purist is going to find some faults: a few examples might be that no motorcyclists would use the term "scrambles racing" or try to race on a grass track with a machine "suitable for short road races", cricketers when surveying the work of 38 people over four years. My only doubt is whether there is a British marker for such a lavish production—the publishers may have overlooked the fact that only in the last few years have the British become more sports minded and less football obsessed. Or perhaps they have gauged that feeling at just the right moment and will ride on the new waves of enthusiasm for participant sports. This is no book for anyone who claims to be interested in sport but whose interest wanes at 4.45 on Saturday afternoon.

Norman Fox

## Table tennis

# Leading players compete for bigger prizes

Britain's leading eight men and four of the leading women will compete for £500 prize money in the Nissen Invitation table tennis tournament, at Oulton, near Leeds, this evening.

## Horse show

# Rest agrees with Sportsman

New York, Nov 7.—David Broome, of Great Britain, took the lead for the individual championship at the National Horse Show at Madison Square Garden last night when he rode Sportsman to victory in the international jumping speed competition. The win gave Broome a 22-10 margin over Dennis Murphy, of the United States team, who rode Tuscaloosa to third place in last night's class.

## Distillers sponsor races on west coast of Scotland

Tomatin Distillers Company announced yesterday their sponsorship of Scottish yacht racing in 1975, in conjunction with the Clyde Cruising Club. Tomatin will underwrite the Comet Wheel series of races to be held during Glasgow Fair Week from July 18 to 26.

Yachts eligible will be those with handicap rating to international offshore rules—from 16ft to 70ft in Divisions A and B. The first long distance race on July 18 will be either between Clyde and Crinan for all divisions or from Dun Laoghaire to Crinan for Division A, and Bangor to Crinan for Division B.

The distillers are providing prizes for each division.

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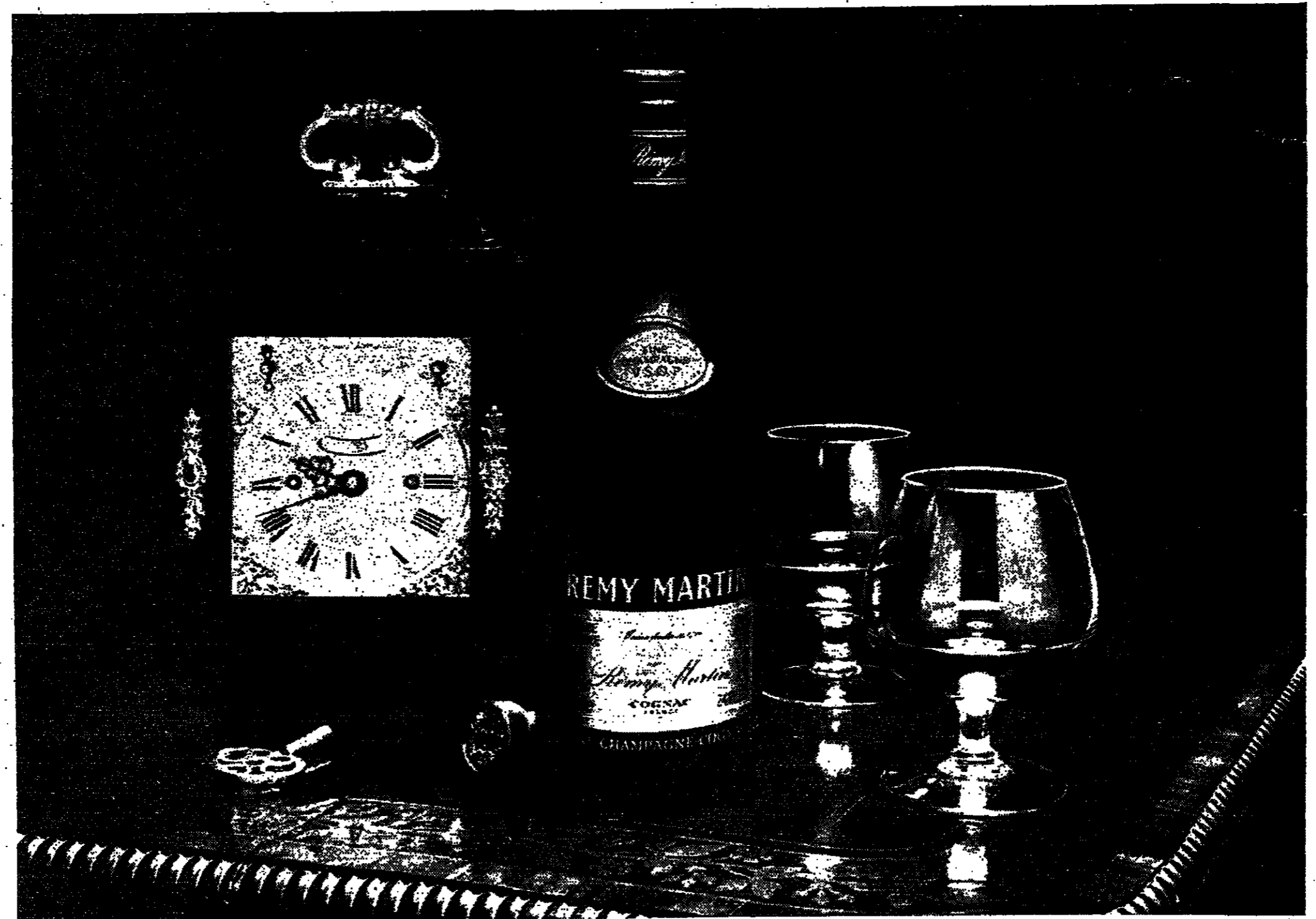
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# Derbyshire

England is remarkable for the variety of scenery it offers within a small space, and it would be hard to find a better illustration of this quality than Derbyshire.

Included in its 1,000 sq miles is the southern end of the Pennines so that, travelling north, you pass from the gently rolling countryside of the Vale of Trent to the awe-inspiring moorland of the High Peak. Lying right in the middle of England, as far from Southampton as from the Cheviots, from Mersey side as from the Wash, it needs only a coastline to complete the picture.

Southern Derbyshire, with its hedges, oak trees and brick houses, is a continuation of the Midlands landscape found in Staffordshire and Leicestershire.

The east contains the M1 motorway and the coal measures of the Erewash and Rother valleys. It is an area of slagheaps and splendid historic buildings in varying state of preservation. Travelling northwest from Derby you come to Ashbourne, which lies at the foot of the Peak District. From then on the scale of the country becomes steadily grander.

In the direction of Buxton the road climbs on to a plateau ribbed by dry, limestone walls which have an extraordinary luminosity in dull weather. To the west Dovedale forms the boundary with Staffordshire.

In the direction of Matlock the road descends into a magnificent valley towards Wirksworth and then passes through a gorge in which Matlock Bath nestles like a continental watering place.

The north of the county is bounded on the east by the "gritstone edges", low cliffs which form the parapet to towering valley walls and are much used by climbers. To the west, Hope Valley and Edale are the prelude to the climax of the Derbyshire landscape, the heights of Kinder Scout and Bleaklow.

This is a virtual wilderness, a haven for those who want to get away from it all, yet, paradoxically, within 20 miles of Sheffield.

The administrative headquarters of Derbyshire are at Matlock. The county council moved there from Derby in 1958 to be in the geographical centre of its territory. Mr Harry Crossley, formerly clerk and now chief executive of the council, said a town like Glossop in the High Peak district, tended to think of Derby as foreign country.

The reorganization of local government in England and Wales appears to have caused little trouble in Derbyshire. The New Derby-

shire County Council, which came into being on April 1 and is controlled by Labour, has assumed responsibility for Derby, formerly an autonomous borough, and acquired from Cheshire a stretch of moorland around Tutwistle and about 1,500 people. The second tier of local authority consists of nine district councils compared with 29 before.

One of the new council's main concerns is to attract industry to the eastern part of the county. This was once a flourishing coal mining area but most of the seams south of Clay Cross have now been worked out and alternative employment is needed.

Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire have undertaken a joint study of the problem, which has recommended the creation of a growth zone between Alfreton and Mansfield, on either side of exit 28 on the M1.

In August the Government granted intermediate area status for investment purposes to north-east Derbyshire, which contains the towns of Chesterfield, Bolsover, Staveley and Dronfield. Before, they were sandwiched between two intermediate areas and losing potential investors to either side.

Although Derbyshire contains some of the wildest country in England it is known primarily as an industrial county. This reputation dates from the late eighteenth century when Richard Arkwright set up a cotton mill driven by water at Cromford and thus revolutionized the spinning industry.

With industry came the railways. The county's connexion with them is announced as you leave for the north from St Pancras, the great castiron arches of the train shed were made by the Butterley Company, Derbyshire, in 1867. Derby was the headquarter of the Midland Railway, which built St Pancras and ran trains to Manchester, Bristol, Carlisle and Edinburgh, as well as to London.

Today British Rail employs about 10,000 people in Derby. In the Railway Technical Centre are the headquarters of British Rail Engineering, which builds and repairs locomotives and rolling stock. British Rail's Chief Mechanical and Electrical Engineer, and its directors of research and supplies.

The research department

did the preliminary work on the advanced passenger train, which employs a tilting body to achieve higher speeds on curves and is due to enter commercial service in 1978. Among its current projects are magnetic suspension as a form of transport and the sodium sulphur cell as a unit for storing energy.

Work on the advanced passenger train has now passed to the Chief Mechanical and Electrical Engineer. He also designed the high-speed train, which can reach 200 kph (125 mph) and should be operating between Paddington and Bristol by the end of 1975.

Other projects for which he is responsible include the PEP experimental commuter train, which Southern Region introduced last year, and the rolling stock for the Channel tunnel.

The works at Litchurch Lane, across the road from the technical centre, have been building air-conditioned Inter-City carriages since 1970.

Finally, Derbyshire is famous for its great families and the houses which they built, above all those of the Cavendish, Manners and Curzon families.

Bess of Hardwick married Sir William Cavendish in 1547 and built Hardwick Hall, on the eastern edge of the county, when she was in her 70s. Her youngest son, William, rebuilt Bolsover Castle, a few miles to the north, and her great-great grandson, who was created first Duke of Devonshire in 1694, erected the main block at Chatsworth.

This house contains one of the greatest collections of Old Master drawings in the country, including superb examples by Rembrandt, Raphael, Rubens and Van Dyck, and a magnificent library. It is hardly surprising, therefore, that the proposed tax on the ownership of wealth has caused concern there.

Mr Thomas Wragg, Keeper of the Devonshire Collections, said that apart from the financial implications the application of such a tax to a collection like Chatsworth's would produce "practically insurmountable problems" if the owner was to be responsible for producing lists and valuations. Moreover, the application of such a tax was bound to affect prices and render any existing valuations obsolete. The only principle which would be "at all fair" to long-established collections would be to make the tax payable only after the sale of important works.

However, the Green Paper

## Industrial diversification still greatly needed

by Ronald Kershaw  
Northern Industrial Correspondent

Since the collapse of Rolls-Royce, Derby's most famous company, in 1971, nobody has been more aware of the danger of overdependence on one industry than Derbyshire County Council. With local authority colleagues from over the border in Nottinghamshire and the Derby County Borough Council as it was then, it commissioned a sub-regional study by a team of its own experts to look at the ways and means of ensuring a prosperous future for the area and at the same time improving the quality of life there.

The most urgent and radical proposal of the study team was for the development of a growth zone between Mansfield and Alfreton. In common with many other areas of Britain, coal mining was declining and unemployment was increasing. There was an immediate need for more jobs in the Erewash Valley. This could be achieved by the expansion of existing industry and attracting new industry.

It was visualized that the awarding of the necessary planning permissions, the population of 260,000 by the end of 1986 and 350,000 by the end of this century.

Another major proposal was to expand Derby as a major centre of industrial technology and services to provide for the town's regulated growth to the south and west and to channel industrial expansion to the growth zone in the north-east. The study emphasized the importance of giving what was termed a "facilitated zone" would have a population of 260,000 by the end of 1986 and 350,000 by the end of this century.

It was reasoned that an improved environment, derelict land clearance, reduced air and water pollution, improved housing, schools, roads and town centres would all contribute to providing an area which combined the attractions of good communications and services for the incoming industrialist and a pleasant and convenient place to live in for his workforce.

Mr Trevor Nuttall, Derbyshire County Council's economic development officer, says with some degree of modesty that the Erewash operation now under way is turning out successfully and looks like continuing to do well. The time pointing out that the

county council, he says, is thinking in terms of putting more emphasis on housing development, for example in the South Normanton area, and the county is preparing a large housing project of probably 1,000 houses.

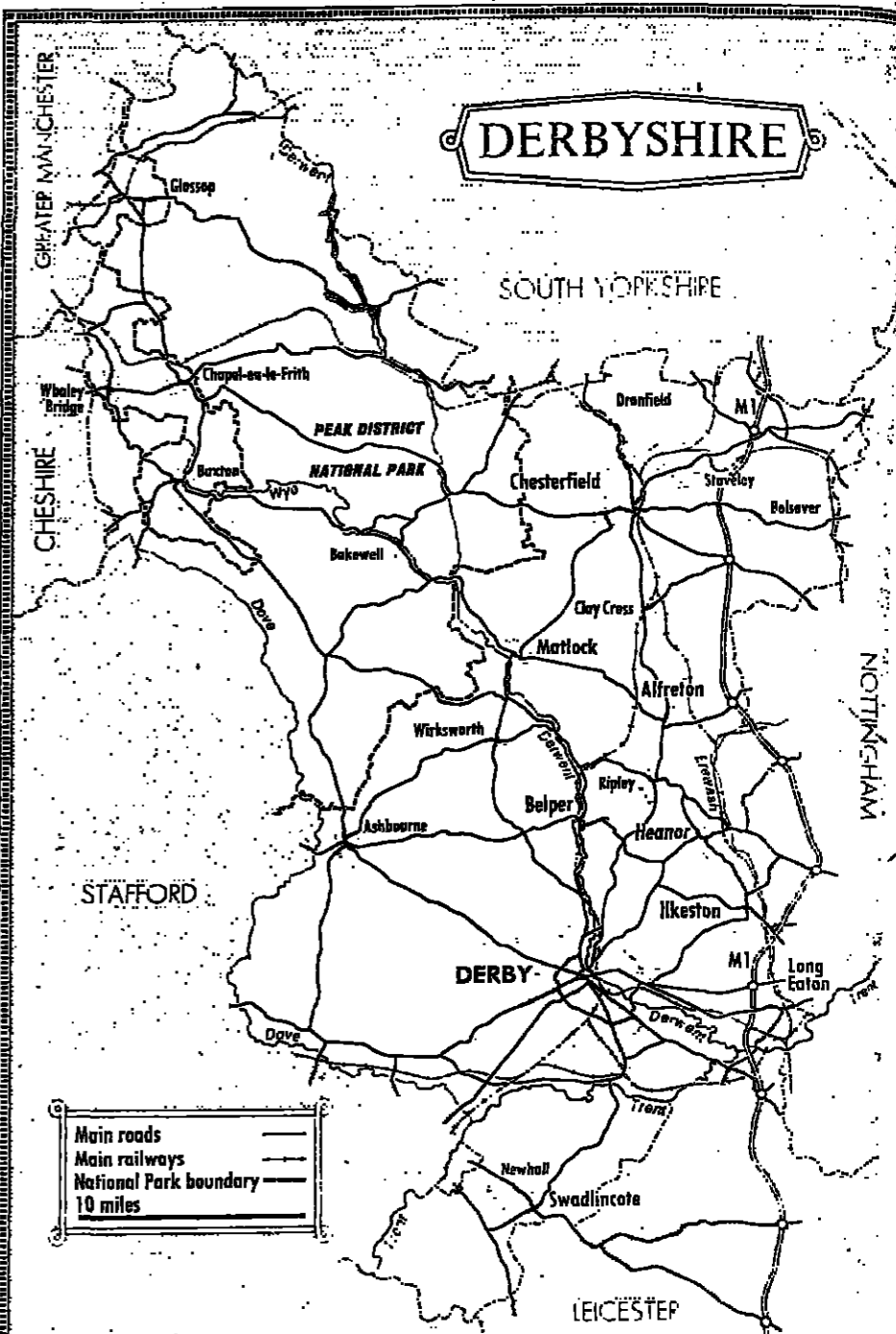
This would be an attempt to keep the development of housing and industry in line with each other. He said: "We do not want to have a situation where firms in the area find they have insufficient labour so we want housing and industry to go along in step."

An example of development in the South Normanton area is that of Filigree Textiles, a subsidiary of the Sellincourt Group. It called its newly opened manufacturing and headquarters complex a confident "firm investment in British textile leadership". The complex is on a 10-acre site about half a mile from the M1. It includes a knitting plant, making-up department, warehouse and the company's administration offices.

Mr Ken Kirk, chairman and managing director of Filigree, paid tribute to the swift action of local and regional authorities in the awarding of the necessary planning permissions, the speed with which the contractors completed their work and the maintenance of production during the switchover from the company's old Nottingham premises to the new ones at South Normanton.

The most formidable task was the recruitment and training of 200 new workers. The church hall at South Normanton was converted into a training school and as new staff were trained buses were provided to take them to work in Nottingham until the opening of the making-up department at South Normanton was completed.

A major proposal by the study group was to encourage the growth of employment in the Chesterfield area. In the eyes of nearly everybody in north Derbyshire the withholding of intermediate area status to this part of the county was a scandal that successive governments did nothing to excuse or explain. The old local authorities in Chesterfield and district expended considerable sums of money and grants and loans and a rest of the incentives in Derbyshire is now covered by areas with intermediate area status, according to Mr

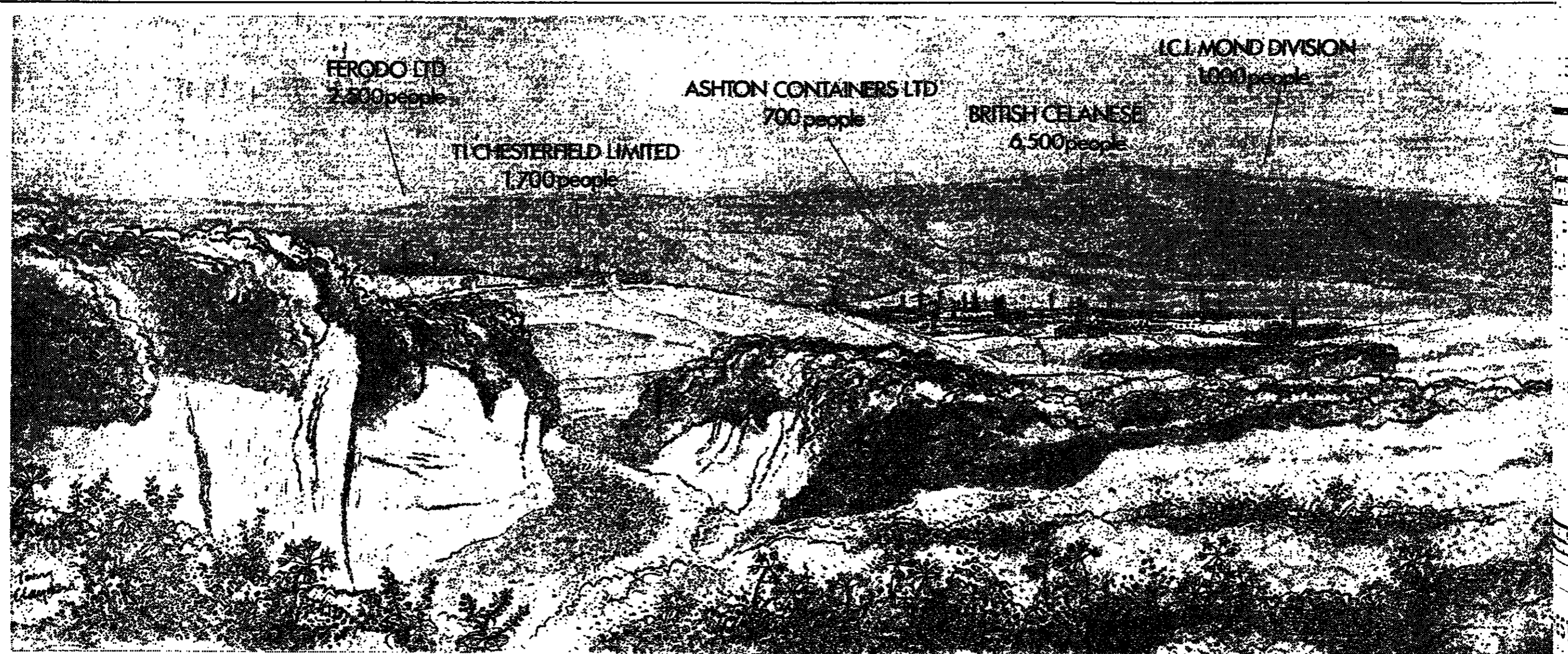


decline of traditional industries had produced unemployment, the emigration of young workers and numerous other economic ills; and that they were considerably worse off from all angles than many surrounding areas and other parts of the country already enjoying intermediate area status and the incentives and concessions to industrialists that went with it.

After years of fighting, Chesterfield and district won its new status in August and, paradoxically, will be ready in February. Several substantial local companies have expressed interest in the development. In population terms some 43 per cent of the county of Derbyshire is now covered by areas with intermediate area status, according to Mr

Nuttall. Many aided areas other parts of the country cover more people but unemployment percentages suggest that Derbyshire is running at a reasonable balance. Unemployment in Derbyshire is running at 2.7 per cent, compared with 2.8 per cent for the country as a whole. For the East-land two miles north of Chesterfield.

The first phase of the industrial centre will be completed by the end of December and further units will be ready in February. Several substantial local companies have expressed interest in the development. In population terms some 43 per cent of the county of Derbyshire is now covered by areas with intermediate area status, according to Mr



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## Landscape with figures

Derbyshire is a county of spectacular scenery. But in the view of many leading industrial and commercial organisations the environmental attractions are only the beginning of the compelling arguments for expanding and developing in Derbyshire.

Derbyshire is ideally placed at the centre of Britain's industrial heart, bordered by the vast conurbations of the North West and the Midlands. Transport links with the nation's prime population centres and markets are unsurpassed by motorway, rail and air. Communications with the wider European and World markets are smooth and cost efficient.

Yet unlike some more densely developed regions, this eminently central county offers a range of favourably priced development sites, existing industrial and commercial properties, a reliable and productive labour force, modestly priced homes and good social and recreational amenities. People who live and work in Derbyshire have a wide choice in the interests they pursue and the kind of area in which they want to live.

In addition to the practical and environmental advantages of developing or resiting in Derbyshire, the financial benefits of Intermediate Area status apply to almost

half the county, including the newly designated North East area.

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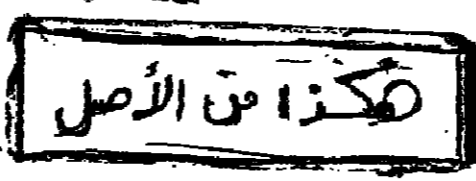
Derbyshire is expansive, uncluttered, and geographically composed on a grand scale.

What a beautiful place to grow.

For further information contact Trevor Nuttall, Economic Development Officer, Derbyshire County Council, County Offices, Matlock, DE4 3AG. Phone: Matlock 3411.

# Derbyshire

a beautiful place to grow



## neer work in blending educational and social needs

Hutchins, the old county lacked the resources of some of the southern counties but it had achieved a more than creditable reputation as a progressive authority, with full marks for school buildings and for special education facilities in a variety of ways Derbyshire is in that against all odds the geographical advantages of the old county survived under local reorganization and change has been a fusion of Derby with its 220,000 in the new district, largely rural county have found hard to especially in the education and service, where urban needs are so often art.

Phillips points out, both Mr Christopher, the new director (he was formerly acting director of Derby), have chosen to fusion of town as a healthy by which they can widely differing solutions to a deeper understanding of the needs of urban and rural education.

provision of nursery schools in scattered rural communities is far more complicated and expensive than in compact urban areas.

One of the biggest difficulties in providing nursery schools is the shortage of trained nursery teachers and nursery assistants at present Derbyshire has only one college of education, though it has submitted proposals for two new ones, at Derby and Matlock, to be established in the next seven years. But at two residential centres in Lea Green and Buxton there is intensive training for teachers and for those involved in the adult and youth services in the county.

Nursery schools are just one facet, albeit a most important one at the moment, of the county's educational programme, which includes further education, art and agriculture training, continuing education and recreational facilities for young and old, special schools for the handicapped, training of the Outward Bound type at the White

Hall Open Pursuits Centre at Buxton, building of schools, expansion of higher education and a continuing improvement in the pupil-teacher ratio.

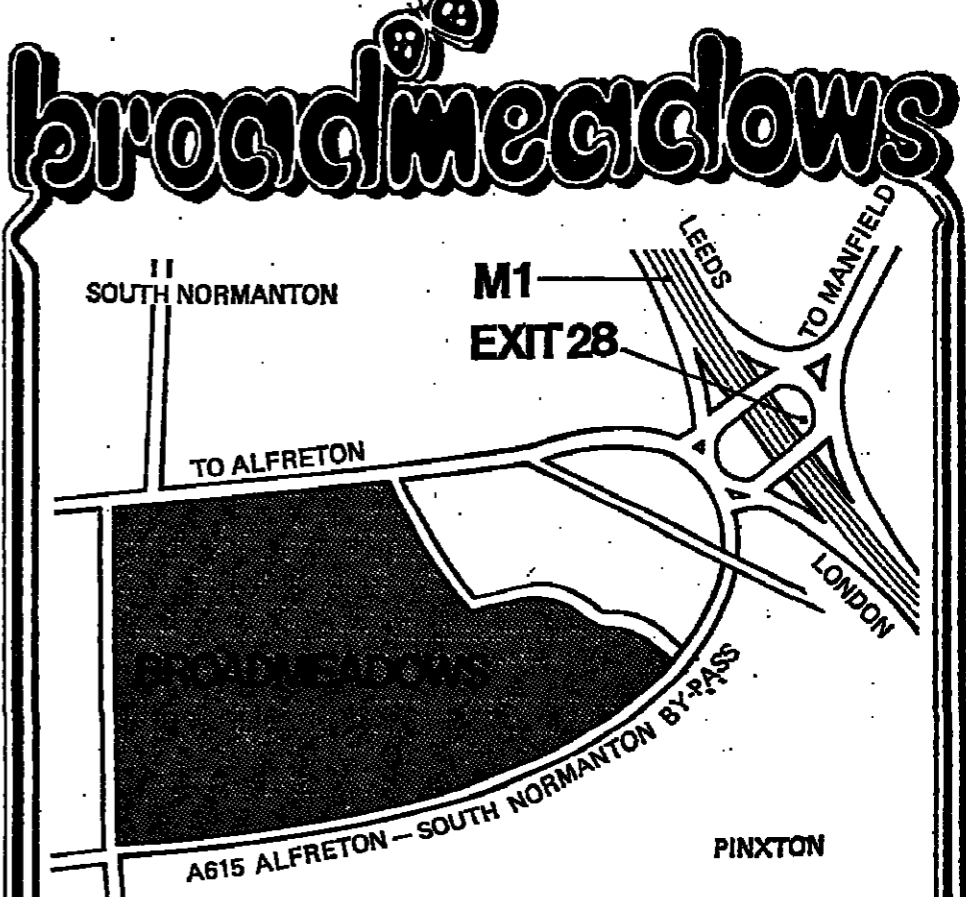
Mr Phillips emphasizes the importance that is being attached not only to pre-school education but to the whole problem of the home - parent - child - teacher relationship, particularly in relation to the handicapped. The old county did some pioneering work in the important area of diagnosis and assessment of handicapped children, and there are already a number of paraprofessional teachers visiting children in their homes, as well as a number of special units attached to primary schools.

"We are taking our responsibility in this matter very seriously", he says, "and we have several experiments going already in the shape of special units attached to junior and secondary schools. We shall do everything possible to absorb these handicapped children into normal schools and to educate them with so-called normal children."

A school for spina bifida and other severely handicapped children was recently opened at Long Eaton, and this year's estimates include nearly £2m for special education, of which nearly £500,000 will be spent on aid to pupils and education other than at school.

It is in this sphere that the growing rapprochement between the education and social services is perhaps most apparent. This is where Mr Ken Hutton, director of social services in the new administration, as in the old, has something to say. With 35 years' experience in local authority social service he has seen many changes, of which the biggest one was the unification of all branches of the social services in 1971.

In its work for the physically handicapped his county has much to be proud of. It was one of the first authorities to submit schemes to help the sick and handicapped in their own homes by the installation of telephones, lifts, ramps, downstairs bath-



## 180 acres of good idea about to happen

Derbyshire is developing and Derbyshire County Council is inviting builders and developers to come and share in a major community development project at Broadmeadows in the Mansfield-Alfreton Growth Zone.

Broadmeadows will service established new industries. The location affords access to Nottingham Derby and Sheffield.

With the aid of special government funds, this joint local authority and private enterprise venture offers a site of 180 acres to be developed into a whole new community providing around 3,500 people with homes, shops and public buildings.

The aim is to build a community, not just another estate. Local authority mortgage facilities for home purchasers will be available.

The invitation is open to both large and small builders to come and discuss the development of this township.

For further details of this challenging new venture contact, County Estates Officer, Derbyshire County Council, County Offices, Matlock, Derbyshire DE4 3AG Telephone Matlock 3411 Extension 6603

## ge towns and mining put pressure on trail-blazing national park

Peak District National Park is the oldest of the 10 national parks, it being in 1950 and mining board met for time in the following. The park covers 1,700 square miles in Derbyshire, Staffordshire and West Yorkshire and Yorkshire.

Each of these valleys is represented on the board of the park by a county council. The county council half its total area was largely west, Leeds to the north,

Sheffield to the east, Stoke-on-Trent, Derby, Nottingham and Birmingham to the south. It is estimated that 17 million people live within 50 miles of the park and that it had nearly that number of visitors last year. Without strict planning control such pressures would soon spoil the "lungs of the nation" industrial conglomerate.

As it is, the Peak Park Planning Board has difficulty in reconciling the demand for recreation and the needs of the local inhabitants. The board owns only about 2,000 acres of the park and for the rest must come to *modus vivendi* with the landowners.

The country setting of Chatsworth, home of the Dukes of Devonshire, which lies within the national park.

that the case for a motorway has still to be proved and points out that the freight railway line which runs through Longdendale is used to less than half capacity.

As well as being ringed by areas of dense population the Peak District is an important source of raw materials for industry. About six million tons of limestone are quarried each year within the park. Seventy per cent of it goes for aggregate, 20 per cent for cement production and the rest to the steel and chemical industries.

The board has recently turned down an application by ICI to extend a quarrying area near Buxton by about 270 acres in the Hope Valley. It gave permission to Associated Portland Cement to rebuild its works but in return the company surrendered various planning permissions to quarry farther into the valley.

More than 200,000 tons of fluorspar are taken from the park each year. This mineral occurs in limestone as a result of volcanic action and is used in steel making to remove impurities in molten metal.

The board points out that extraction is not simply a question of unsightly gashes in the landscape. There are also processing plants which scatter dust, heavy lorries to carry the stone to customers, the risk of land subsidence, and lagoons of tailings, the residue from washing fluorspar. A request by Laporte Industries to extend

The country setting of Chatsworth, home of the Dukes of Devonshire, which lies within the national park.

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It is likewise cautious about allowing more reservoirs within the park. Sheffield and Manchester started to tap the Peak District more than 100 years ago and there are now 48 water supply reservoirs and three to five canals.

Since 1951 the number of cars in the park has risen sixfold. Their presence causes congestion, as in the village of Milldale at the head of Doveedale, and leads to erosion when their passengers all stop in one spot below a hillside up to it. This has happened below Staveley Edge and at the Winstanley dry limestone valley near Castleton.

There is increasing demand for routes across the park from east to west. A proposal has been made to build a motorway between Manchester and Sheffield by way of Longdendale. Mr Harry Brust, deputy director of the planning department, said the Government had made a feasibility study but had not yet shown it to the board. He feels

the board is fighting a losing battle. However, it has achieved a great deal in its 23 years and is a source of inspiration and advice to successors in other parts of Britain.

Since 1970, for example, it has opened two trails for walkers, cyclists and pony trekkers along disused railway tracks. The Tissington Trail runs for 13 miles between Ashbourne and Parsley Hay along the former Buxton-Ashbourne line. It followed part of it with Mr Terry Tallis, the warden responsible for the southern part of the park, and found it a very pleasant way of seeing the countryside.

In the north it joins the High Peak Trail, a 17-mile stretch of the old Cromford and High Peak Railway which has been developed in conjunction with the county council.

The board is interested in acquiring part of the Matlock-Buxton railway, which runs through Monsal Dale, for the same purpose, but it thinks that British Rail's price is too high, given the cost of maintaining the numerous tunnels, viaducts and bridges on that line.

In 1972 Princess Anne opened a residential study centre at Losehill Hall, a Victorian mansion near Castleton. The first of its kind in Britain, it aims at giving the general public a chance to learn about the park. There is accommodation for 60, and a weekend there, including board, lodging and tuition, costs about £10.

S.S.P.

## Troubles on and off the cricket pitch

by Richard Streeton

Like every other county cricket club, Derbyshire are in the throes of adjusting to the demands of current cricket economics. The struggle has not been made any easier because Derbyshire, compared with most other counties, have been slow to appreciate the need for change; to recognize that a county club in the 1970s is a business, with all that the word implies in terms of efficiency and financial soundness.

It is inevitably a painful time in the club's history, with entrenched patterns of behaviour and outlook having to be changed. There is every likelihood of casualties in more than one sphere. The recent dismal playing record, too, with

Derbyshire finishing last, or last but one, in five of the last six championship seasons, has hardly been conducive to enthusiasm.

Yet there is nothing in the history of Derbyshire cricket, characterised as it has always been by honest application, perseverance and teamwork, to suggest that this particular passage of arms will not be won and already there are hints of new confidence and determination.

It will, of course, take time. On paper, Derbyshire, with their capital in equities, are already bankrupt. Other problems include a regular working deficit and a membership list of only a few more than 3,000, far smaller than it should be for Derbyshire's population and area. Tied in with this problem is the fact that Derbyshire do not own any of the grounds they play on. So they have always been restricted in the facilities they can offer members, or indeed any spectators.

One way and another, and remembering the poor playing performances, it is hardly surprising that recent months have brought the quota customary on these occasions of grumbling letters about the club's administration. There has also been talk of a petition to have the captain deposed, and at least one member has resigned in despair.

County cricket clubs keep themselves viable in a variety of ways and few of them have anything to do with gate money. Basically, it has been found essential that pavilion facilities should be used all the year

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# The will to blow the lid off Ulster still remains strong

The latest break-out from the Maze Prison, resulting in the death of an escapee and the murder of three more soldiers impinges on the security situation in all Northern Ireland. Ulster is slightly calmer than it was six months ago, when it was slightly calmer than it was six months before that. But the province resembles a saucerpan which is not boiling over because someone is holding down the lid. Incidents like that at the Maze turn the gas up a little higher, and the Army and police have to hold on to the lid that much more firmly. The capacity to cause an eruption is still all too evident.

When the Army first tried blocking some of the unapproved border crossings leading from the Irish Republic into the North, they blew simple, uncomplicated craters in the road. Teams of local men, women and children then moved in under cover of darkness, armed with shovels, and filled them in again—working like lines of coolies—as one officer drily observed. So the Army began to blow double craters in the roads with barriers in between. So the "coolies" moved in, not only with shovels but with bulldozers too, to fill in the craters and remove the barricades.

Now the Army blows triple holes in the roads and places static water tanks in between. Soldiers drive railway lines through the bottoms of the tanks to rivet them into the roads, and fill them with concrete. But the locals still come. They bring shovels, bulldozers, picks and oxyacetylene burners. They burn through the tanks, hack away at the concrete and shovel away the rubble with the bulldozers. Where there is a will, there is a way. And while that will may be diminished among 98 per cent of the province's more recalcitrant population, it still lives on in the 2 per cent. All of which goes part of the way towards explaining the awful mood of fatalism which hangs like a raincloud over Northern Ireland.

Not that the Provisional IRA, which despite Protestant and Official IRA activity, constitutes the principal overt threat to peace in the province, needs worry overmuch about 49 closed roads. Even on the approved border crossings, on some of

which the Army now mounts a 24-hour vehicle check point (VCP), the lorries of stinking offal, en route from the South to animal food factories in the North, or the trucks packed with skins for tanning, provide sufficient blanket for the illicit transit of arms and explosives. Even when the Army has made provision to search these, too (as it is now preparing to do) there is little doubt that the guns will get through.

The Provisionals are short of the experienced, mature leaders who not so long ago operated with relative freedom in the urban centres in Ulster. In Belfast the skeletal para-military structure of a brigade headquarters, with three city battalions, still exists. But it exists more as a logistics opera-

tion than anything else. Six Belfast brigade commanders have been arrested during the past 12 months, one of them only 20 minutes after his promotion to the post. The actual operations are carried out largely through a structure of small Active Service Units (ASUs) scattered throughout the city, each unit a small tightly knit cell linked to the central structure by a tenuous chain of command—a measure which has been introduced because of weaknesses in the Provisionals' own security. Perhaps as a result of the security forces' concentration upon Belfast only about half the terrorist incidents in Northern Ireland now occur in the city, compared with 80 per cent not so long ago.

The general level of violence

in Ulster continues to decline, slowly and jerkily. Police figures indicate that the number of shooting incidents is down by 40 per cent so far this year when compared with 1973. The number of explosions is down by 30 per cent, and the overall number of deaths stands at more than 150, as opposed to 210. Finds by the security forces so far this year include 4,054 weapons, 128,000 rounds of ammunition and 21,300 lb of explosives—apart from the 21,000 lb which have been defused by the Army.

Only on the border itself has the violence shown signs of increasing in tempo. There it now constitutes about 25 per cent of the incidents in Northern Ireland, as opposed to only 5 per cent last year. This is partly because of the number of Pro-

visionals who are now in hiding from the authorities on both sides of the border. The 50 or so Provisionals estimated to be operating from within the Monaghan salient, that limb of the Irish Republic which sticks like a sore thumb into the underbelly of Ulster, are being led by a number of men who escaped in the break-out from Portlaoine prison in August. Some of the attacks in the border areas during the past month or two have borne signs of their experience and professionalism. But while cooperation between the Ulster police and the unarmed Garda is steadily improving, cooperation between the British and Irish armies is only sporadic.

There is also scope for more cooperation from the South in the control of explosives. While the number of explosions has

gone down in Ulster, the size of the bombs themselves has shown a marked increase this year. A number of explosives up until ten days ago stands at only 600 in 1974, compared with 978 for the same period last year, a fall of a third. But the amount of explosives used was between 43,000 and 44,000 lb—not far short of the 47,000 lb used in 1973. In fact about half the 600 so far this year were neutralized in time, but the explosion which killed two soldiers at Ballykinler last week took place without warning and is being seen as a new kind of bombing campaign, directed principally at the security forces.

The main source of explosives is still the South, and the Army is pressing for much tougher action there to prevent the theft of commercial explosive like fraxex which is used to ignite the primary explosive in most of the bombs in the North—and also to prevent the disappearance of detonators. The Army would like to see close supervision of quarry blasting operations by the police, as is the practice now in the North.

But there is also a strong case for banning in Britain and Ireland the use of fertilizers which contain ammonium nitrate—the base of the majority of IRA bombs in both countries. Germany has done so already. Alternatively it should be possible to add a chemical which would at least make it impossible for IRA bomb "factories" to extract the ammonium nitrate from the fertilizer, for use in the Ammfo explosive mixture.

Where there is a will, there remains a way. Few soldiers or policemen in Ulster believe that such measures would prevent the Provisionals from carrying out terrorist attacks. But they could make it still more difficult for them to do so—and this is what half the security operations in Ulster are all about. The Army and the police will not make it impossible for the terrorists to make a bid to operate, however hard they try. That will only happen when the terrorists, for one reason or another, lose the will. The police insist that 98 per cent of the population in the hard areas of Ulster would now like to see them begin regular patrols there. But it would have to be 100 per cent before the police, who are brave enough, could do so with impunity. Northern Ireland has still a long struggle towards normalcy. Few people in the province now would disagree with that.

Henry Stanhope  
Defence Correspondent

# A year is a long time in the eastern Mediterranean



Mr. Karamanlis, left, and Mr. Ecevit: A new meeting reconciliation?

One immediate reaction in Greece to the Cyprus disaster has been an extraordinarily bitter almost universal exclamation of Americans. Nine thinking Greeks out of 10 are convinced that the CIA encouraged the colonels to risk the coup against Archbishop Makarios which gave Turkey the pretext to invade. There followed in Greece a passionate desire to be free of all foreign meddling and the outraged withdrawal from the military organization of Nato at a moment when Greece patently needs full United States sympathy and support in her several disputes with Turkey.

Greek leaders stress that Greece has not left the alliance. They readily admit that the bilateral agreements with the United States—for instance, the home porting agreement for six United States destroyers; storage of nuclear weapons to guard the northern frontier; sea and air facilities in Crete; and maintenance of a radar screen—are much in the strategic interests of Greece and that their abandonment would also be a severe economic blow. They argue that it took France a year to leave the military organization of Nato and two years or more to negotiate further working arrangements. In the early warning system and certain exercises, for instance, France has continued to cooperate throughout. For the present, therefore, the Greek Government will leave matters much as they were, while tempers cool.

Anti-Americanization together with the desire of Greece to be accepted as internationally respectable once more, has strongly increased the determination of Greeks to win full membership in a European union at the earliest possible moment.

Meanwhile Cyprus remains the most urgent problem. In face of the sufferings of Cyprus, Greeks feel much responsibility and genuine distress. As one young political agent said to me: "If there is a package deal with Turkey, I would rather make concessions over oil for the Aegean than agree to a forced transfer of Greek Cypriots from their homes." This could be a youthfully generous attitude, but many Greeks would agree with it, though many others now wish that

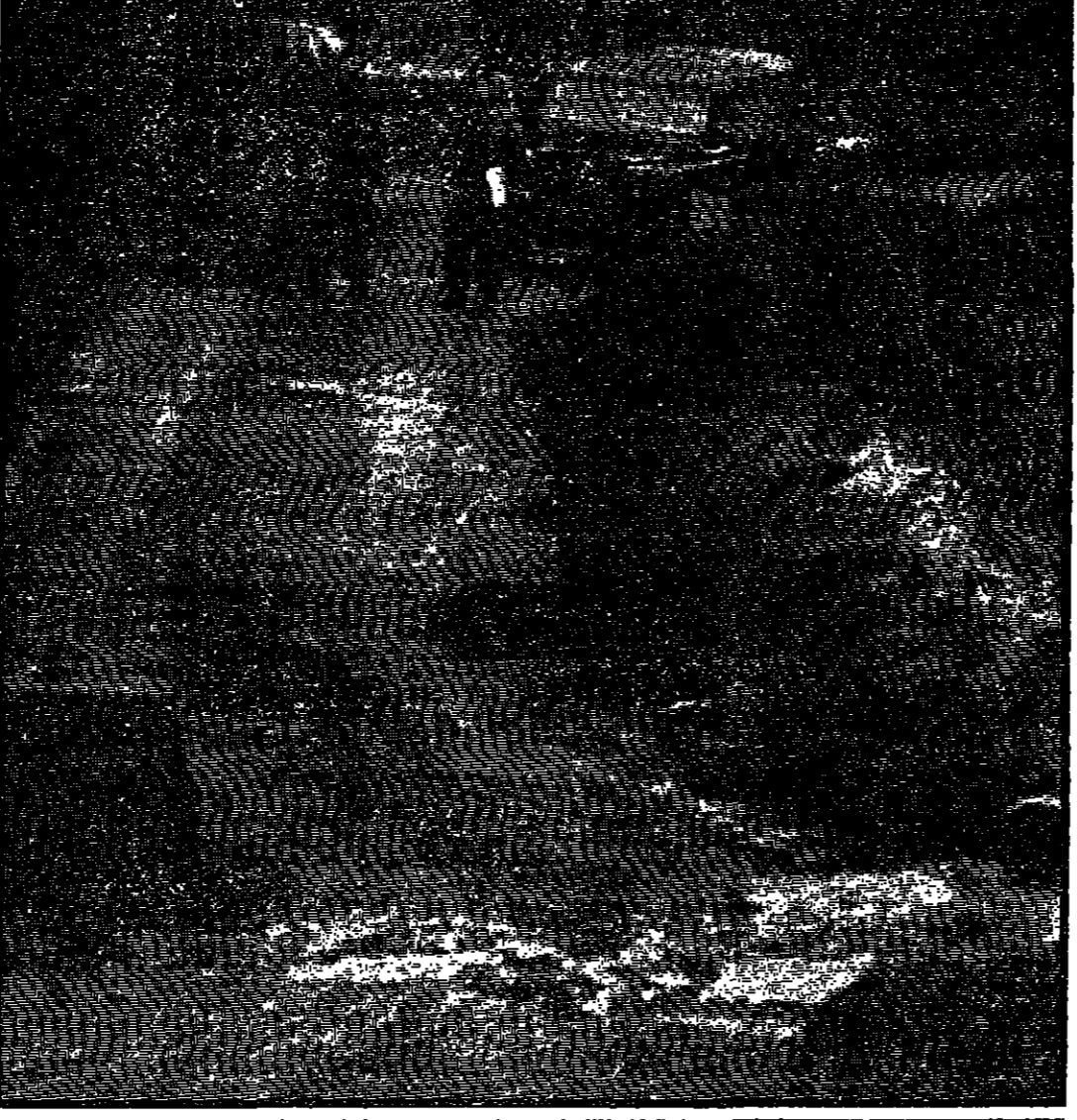
Cyprus could just be forgone. The Government have withdrawn about one-third the 600 Greek officers with the Cyprus National Guard and will before long have placed all those who were Cyprus at the time of the coup. Archbishop Makarios has made a solemn appeal. He says that the bishop has still the support of a large majority of Cypriots. If he decides to turn to Cyprus, they will not stand in his way. He says that, if he does, he will take responsibility himself for any agreement, and not merely be a member of the wings, settlement which the Cypriots accept will be accepted by the Greeks.

Behind all this the diplomats of Greece and I know how greatly the interests of both would be served by a settlement of outstanding differences on both sides. For the present crisis has made a solution harder than before. Mr. Karamanlis and Mr. Ecevit, Prime Ministers of Greece and Turkey, as national leaders strong popular support yet join in a new meeting reconciliation such as the interests of both countries so well after the UN Treaty of 1963.

Mr. Karamanlis, the UN colonels, is certainly not discussing the oil dispute—question which the Turkish wish to raise, possibly, in stance, ways of developing resources in the Turkish minority (120,000) in the final demilitarized islands in the Aegean which were garrisons of Greece during the 1920s for settlement of the Greek community in but—has over the years, but itself since most Greeks, uncertain of future, have departed, some 12,000 to 15,000, which gives a real character once and for all. It fears that Greeks still do "the Great Idea" of 1923. At present, however, I fear that the Turkish, being the real power in T is in a mood to seek peace. It is, therefore, to speak of a new reconciliation—but in a way so much could change.

A. M. R.

Perhaps as a result of the security forces' concentration on Belfast, only about half the terrorist incidents in Ulster now occur in the city... Only on the border itself is violence increasing.



# Why US is happy to be forced into détente with Cuba

If Latin American governments once had the image of being Washington's faithful lapdogs they are doing their best to dispel it. Today member countries of the Organization of American States are meeting in Quito to discuss the lifting of trade and diplomatic sanctions against Cuba, a move which the United States is still reluctant to allow.

The latest count suggests that Costa Rica, Colombia and Venezuela, the sponsors of the motion are likely to be successful. Argentina, Mexico, Peru and Panama have already resumed relations with Cuba and

thus can hardly oppose the motion. Ecuador and Bolivia are in favour, and, say diplomatic sources, so are the Dominican Republic and Paraguay.

So far only two countries have announced their opposition to the move and they, as might be expected, are the right-wing regimes in Chile and Uruguay. Brazil and the Central American republics remain undecided. The Caribbean countries are expected to abstain—they all have relations with Cuba and were not members of the OAS when Cuba was expelled and sanctions imposed in 1964.

So, unless there are any last minute changes, it looks as if the two-thirds majority needed

to lift the sanctions will just be mustered and Cuba will once more become *persona grata* with the governments of Latin America.

In these circumstances it is unlikely that the United States will want to stay out in the cold, despite President Ford's remarks during his recent Mexican tour. He declared that the United States is still unwilling to enter into a dialogue with Cuba.

But if sanctions against Cuba are lifted by vote of the OAS, American opposition may begin to crumble. Relations between the United States and Latin America have not been helped by the disclosures of involve-

ment in Allende's Chile. Continued opposition to Cuba in the face of an OAS decision would only disrupt relations still further.

In fact, a favourable decision in Quito may well give President Ford an excuse to renew relations with Cuba, something he lacks at present. For at the moment there is little reason for the United States to concern itself with its Communist neighbour. Since the missile crisis in the early sixties there has been no likelihood of a Soviet missile base being installed there. Nor is there any evidence that Cuba's revolution is exportable, another of the original reasons for isolating Cuba. A

decade of attempts at insurrection by Cuban guerrillas in the Latin American mainland met with no success and was abandoned in the late sixties.

Moreover, the possibilities for United States trade with Cuba are fairly limited. Despite the current high prices for sugar, Cuba's principal foreign exchange earner, there is not much sign of a boom in the Cuban economy, as the Soviet Union knows to its cost. To get Latin America to trade going against the United States would be obliged to make loans available to Cuba. This would be subject to approval by a Congress still remarkably opposed to Cuba.

The key vote in October by the Foreign Relations Committee of the House of Representatives rejected by 22 to 4 a resolution which would have lifted legal restrictions against United States trade with Cuba.

And what of the Cuban Government? For once they are sounding conciliatory. The Cuban Prime Minister, Fidel Castro, has stated on several occasions in the past few weeks that he is willing to negotiate with the United States once the economic blockade is lifted. Whether he will get the support depends in part on today's crucial OAS vote.

Jo Beresford



# Olympia's new electric hardly sounds like a typewriter at all

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I usually get a good story when I travel to Cheltenham. My last visit was 18 months ago when I wrote an item about Cheltenham Ladies' College which aroused great interest and some anger among the pupils. On Wednesday night I went there to hear a discussion—part of the annual Literary Festival and quite relevant to my previous visit—about whether reporters can tell the truth or whether novelists can tell it better.

The question of how much real truth is contained in the news columns of newspapers is one which concerns me. Two of the speakers explained some of the obstacles in the way of truthful reporting, and why people who are themselves witnesses of a newsworthy event often do not recognize the reports of it which appear in the press.

Michael Frayn, wearing a green corduroy suit, said that one barrier to truth was the existence of conventions in which a reporter was expected to work. This led to the appearance of identical catch-phrases in reports of events. Thus firemen would be generally described as "wearing breathing apparatus" and we would usually have "policemen with tracker dogs" scouring the area in search of somebody. (Brian Redhead, who chaired the discussion, contributed his own favourite such catch-phrases: "Women, some with shopping bags.")

Auberon Waugh, in a dark pin-striped three-piece, described two main barriers to truth. One was the libel law (though he gave the interesting statistic that of the half dozen libel cases he had been involved in, all the plaintiffs were journalists). The other was the reluctance of specialist journalists to offer sources for information. This led to cases like the Biafran war, where the official information disseminated by the Commonwealth Office in London was often at variance with the dispatches of reporters on the spot.

Then Frayn came back with the evening's first hint of needle. Another obstacle to truth, he said, was the "current fashion for mindless innuendo". As instances, he weighed into Waugh for describing a

# The Times Diary

Why I am not telling you the whole truth

## UPPER CLASS EXIT

Today's politically motivated sign was photographed in Nagasaki Station, Kyoto, by Glims Fell of Cambridge. Some of the earlier signs in the series were published in a booklet yesterday by Hamish Hamilton. It is called Signs of the Times and costs 65p.

judge who had made a ruling he disagreed with as "a pip-squeak" and for implying that the *Sunday Times's* investigation into the thalidomide tragedy had been motivated by the editor's desire for honours. Waugh, apparently taken aback, was forced to qualify both judgments, though only partially.

The remaining panellist was Philip Toynbee, who stripped off his jacket and grey sweater during the evening to reveal a green twilling event-shirt. He sided with Frayn against Waugh on the pip-squeak issue, then vigorously attacked poor Redhead.

Redhead had been talking about Shostakovich and Beethoven and about how the purpose of art was to push forward human experience. The shirt-sleeved Toynbee blurted: "That's typical romantic crap" and went on to say how craftsmanship was the essential element in writing both novels and journalism. Redhead, who is an experienced chairman of BBC

discussion programmes and who thus has great verbal facility, slid from under that with little difficulty.

One distortion which none of the speakers mentioned was the undue weight given by newspapers to the elements of conflict in the events they report. You might gather from this very report of Wednesday night's meeting that much of the time was taken up by the speakers being rude to each other, but this was not so. I have simply selected the two incidents of conflict for my report because I believe that this is what interests you. The discussion in general was conducted with good humour.

Newspapers vie with each other to see which can use the most redolent of conflict. Thus in yesterday's report of Britain's retaliation against Ugandan provocation, we had: "Jim" trades punches with Amin" (*Daily Express*); "Britain slapped back at Uganda's President..." (*Daily Mirror*); "Britain got tough with Uganda's President..." (*The Sun*); "A bitter tit-for-tat row..." President Idi Amin so infuriated the Foreign Office..." (*Daily Mail*).

None is an exact or even a very helpful description of what happened, but it is how the newspapers believe their readers like the news presented. Auberon Waugh best summed up the dilemma which is always facing reporters and newspaper executives: "The truth is mostly extremely boring."

## Lunchtime

Mirabel Cecil sums up her Christmas shopping season test of lunches at London department stores.

A shopper's lunch can be assessed most accurately by its effect it has on your buying. If you whizz out of the restaurant and feel inclined to buy up the whole store, it has worked; if you reel out, dazed by the enormity of the bill or the frightfulness of the food, it has not. The food is not the only ingredient of this feeling of well-being, conducive to extravagance. A weary shopper likes to feel consorted, to relax, to be jollied along by the staff, and that is where the cosy, middle-

aged ladies who wait in most stores at lunch-time score over svelte waiters.

The well-being can be brought about in humble as well as grand restaurants. I felt as much like buying all Woolworth's Christmas decorations as I wanted to splurge on scent in Harrods after lunch there.

The best lunch I had was in Biba, which was fun as well as reasonably good value. The most disappointing was Fortnum and Mason, until now a favourite place of mine. After Biba, Harrods and Woolworth's in Oxford Street, were, in their different ways, excellent—Woolworth's because it was cheerful and good value, Harrods because of its style.

My lament is for the cheese board: nowhere did I find a good one, though cheese is one of the best value foods. And in these straitened times, where are the nourishing soups so easily made in big kitchens? In all shops it is best to go to lunch after one o'clock, as the queues then diminish. I wish all restaurants where there is likely to be a queue would adopt Fortnum's habit of taking your name and letting you sit down and have a drink while you wait for a table.

## Pickled

Pickle Power arrived in London yesterday in the well-preserved form of Bill "The Dill" Moore, executive vice-president of Pickle Packers International Inc (St Charles, Illinois). With him came an assortment of plastic inflatable pickle men, pickle puzzles, pickle squeakers and pickle soap.

When it comes to pickles nobody knows his onions quite like Moore, which explains why he feels confident about his three-day mission to persuade the British with the help of his simulated aids, to "think pickles".

Moore—the dill is a yellow-flowered herb used in pickling more in the United States than here—is organizing the third annual European division conference of Pickle Packers International. With as much relish as good humour, some 50 delegates from 10 countries are, under his cheerful direction in

Do you suppose the doc has emigrated already?



mutual pursuit of answers the pressing problems of f picking, processing and ing, in the appropriate setting the Royal Garden Hotel. The discussions when reported, eavesdropped rather low key. There was Anglo-American disarray about whether pickles are an impulse buy or not, followed a short analysis of psychology of pickle buying and a discussion into the merit displaying bottles of pickle their bottoms or on their sides. "People keep coming up saying: 'Are you serious? This is a take-on'", said Moore. "I say I have given my little pickles and though I think mustn't take ourselves too seriously we must take our pro-so."

In the Municipal and Public Services Journal Skelton's New Town is advertising an area manager in a dept officer, a rent officer, liaison tenants and welcoming lady. What is going on in Skelton?

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# MEETINGS FROM PEKING

greetings exchanged on several days between China and Soviet Union are naturally subject to interested scrutiny for signs of change. Even number and weight of the envoys will offer clues. The formal message, however, will be touched that may be interpreted as marking either a line or an improvement in relations. Yesterday's message on the occasion of the Soviet anniversary has attracted attention because it is further than any other signalling. It takes up a point for a non-aggression pact that has before now been issued by the Chinese as no more than Soviet hypocrisy. But it is overlooked. Justification for the proposal among leaders of agreement reached between Mr Kosygin and Mr Chou En-lai when they met at Peking in 1969. The textual evidence never needs to be looked at since nothing in the relations between the two countries in the past few years lends support to any claim about an improvement. An incident when a Soviet bomber crossed the Chinese frontier last March while on a mission of succour has certainly

aroused much anger in Moscow. Chinese charges that the helicopter was spying have drawn unhesitating denials from Moscow but with no result in Peking where the case is still pending. The border talks resumed in the summer offer little hope either. In so far as judgment can be based on the scanty evidence or the rival allegations it would seem that Chinese rather than Soviet intransigence has been the stumbling block, enough to convince some Russians that the Chinese are not seriously seeking an agreement. In this case it should be noted that the latest Chinese proposal includes, along with the non-aggression pact, mention of the separation of forces in the border areas, a demand that has from the beginning been rejected on the Soviet side for fear that it would pre-judge the territorial issue. Nor did Mr Gromyko seem to be expecting a Chinese olive branch in his speech on Wednesday on the eve of the anniversary when he accused the Chinese of subordinating their policies to their struggle with the Soviet Union. At which point the Chinese Ambassador walked out, a common occurrence since

both capitals, but not one which promises on either side any hopes for improved state relations. While both sides earnestly repeat their hopes of such an improvement neither finds in the other's behaviour anything to give them hope. Too much should not therefore be built on the different terms of the latest Chinese message. What can be said is that such an improvement in state relations as both sides say they want has been an issue for some years past among the Chinese leadership. Many—perhaps even the majority among the Chinese leaders—believe that a less obdurate attitude could effect an immediate improvement without any sacrifice of Chinese interests or principles. Nor is it possible to point to any such interests or principles on which the argument has stuck in the exchanges of the past five years. The obduracy points to personalities more than principles and chiefly to Chairman Mao. At a time when ill-health and old age afflict both Chairman Mao and Mr Chou En-lai the prospects of change in China may not be far distant. Until then no real change of heart looks likely.

# DEPENDENCE ON DOCTORS FROM ABROAD

A letter on this page the title of the National Association of Clinical Teachers points the heavy dependence of the vital service on doctors from abroad, and warn that this dependence is in some respects awful. It is a case that is difficult to make without touching on the inflated general level of immigration, and it must be stressed that there are time grounds for concern which have nothing to do with justice. It is an entirely irrefutable thing that doctors from other countries where medical facilities may be less developed would come here to gain experience, and that some should be taken advantage of. Their status as Commonwealth citizens stay and make their careers here. But there is reason to think that the role of immigrant doctors is not working sufficiently to their advantage, or to that of patients, or indeed to that of countries which originally recruited them and may get scant return from their investment.

Occasionally there are grounds for doubt about the standard of their training and their basic understanding of English, but these are not the central cause of concern, and next year the General Medical Council is to introduce examinations to test foreign graduates on both points. What is more disturbing is the tendency for certain specialties and certain parts of Britain to become identified as immigrants' ground. The letter from NACT makes this seem less striking than it is by referring only to senior staff. In fact, if an immigrant becomes a consultant it is safe to assume that he is pretty familiar with the British nuances. But among junior staff the figures, though more static, are much higher—50 per cent in psychiatry, 80 per cent in geriatrics—and many of these staff will have gone into those fields largely because they are relatively easy to get into. They may have no strong commitment to their speciality, and may well have less than a full acquaintance with English dialects and euphemisms. Junior doctors, of course, have much more routine contact with patients than consultants. Yet in the care of the old and the mentally disturbed a special commitment and an ability to communicate easily with the patient are especially important. The problem is not simply a failure to train enough doctors of our own. It is true that there is no profession where there is such competition over entry, but there is no point in training doctors simply to emigrate. The number of graduates in our

medical schools is increasing, but the number of hospital house officers fell last year all the same. If the number of immigrant doctors in Britain showed clear signs of falling there would be an urgent need for a major expansion in training. But this does not seem to be happening. There is an urgent need to make a hospital career attractive enough to encourage native-born as well as foreign doctors to undertake it. There is an undue disparity of esteem between disciplines and hospitals. As in industry, jobs that are unpopular tend to go to immigrants (a process hard to reverse once it has occurred). Part of the trouble lies in pre-conceptions instilled in training, where the emphasis is on general medicine and surgery, on ambition and intellectual challenge. The merit award system and the opportunities for private practice happen to reinforce the attractions of the same popular specialties. Less glamorous wards and hospitals tend to be starved of funds and become even grimmer to work in. The career structure, where only a minority can aspire to the security of consultant status, encourages the ambitious to emigrate if their hopes of the right kind of consultancy seem remote, and almost requires the services at a low level of people who do not expect to continue in British medicine all their lives. Many of these problems are woven deeply into the customs of the profession, and to restore the balance extra training places are needed less than a new approach.

# R VORSTER'S BREEZE OF CHANGE

Vorster has asked political commentators "to give South Africa a chance". If the greatest restraint is used at a "delicate" time, he said yesterday, in six to twelve months the commentators will be surprised where South Africa stands. Whether he was urging the foreign as well as the press is not clear, but he hardly expects his words to be greeted in respectful silence, especially when his ministers are busy elaborating on them. There is keen interest in how South Africa intends to adjust in its new racial policy as well as its relations with its client and former states now that Portugal is handing over Angola and Zambia to militant black nationalists. The indications are that South Africa is at last seeking a solution internally and externally, and that the ministers are trying to convert the rampant diatribes in their country to the need for change, and for some fast backtracking of earlier policies. The twelve months mentioned is perhaps Mr Vorster's estimate of the time in which Africa has got before it becomes acute. He was able to parade Mozambique's assurances of continued cooperation and its reluctance not to harbour terrorists, and he asked for a chance to produce a settlement in South West Africa. But Zambia is in the early stages, and it now seems possible to make progress in Namibia without negotiations

with the nationalists of Swapo (South West Africa People's Organisation). Swapo and the United Nations are committed to a unitary country not to a federation of tribalbantustans with a German ranchland of the old kind in the middle running the show. The main thrust of the plan seems to be a crash programme ofbantustan development, combined with an attempt to solidify white and coloured interests in white South Africa. It would certainly be convenient if other black leaders besides Chief Matanzima of Transkei could stand up and tell the United Nations that black men in South Africa will make decisions about such matters as membership of the United Nations, not black men in New York. To achieve this Mr Vorster will need to meet the minimumbantustan demands for the land and facilities which will make these states into viable and contiguous administrative areas. But to make this long overdue concession will cost a fortune, take time, and infuriate the white landowners. Even Transkei's capital, Umtata, has not yet been handed over, or its coastline. Mr Vorster declared that there would be black majority rule in Transkei, KwaZulu, Boputha, Tsama, Lebua, Ciskei, Gazankulu and the others", and white rule in the white area. Already it is being suggested by ministers that the barriers between brown and white in that rich and privileged area be removed, though how far

this includes any return even to the old relatively liberal Cape franchise is doubtful. Evidently Mr Vorster sees that there are too few white men to hold the best bit of South Africa, in which half the black population still lives. At long last he sees the Coloureds as allies. It remains to be seen if the twenty-year folly of estranging the Coloureds can be expunged in a year or so. Their earlier treatment over their community council elections was insanely inept, quite apart from a long history of racial slights. His biggest difficulty will be carrying the *verkrampte* politicians, the white trade unions and the *plateland* farmers along. African students are ready for change, and so are many liberal Afrikaners who helped put so many Progressives into Parliament at the last election. But the mass of Afrikaners are slow to move. They still feel that if Israel can hold off the outnumbering Arabs with their oil power, white South Africa can defy black Africa. They doubt the long-term stability of any African state on their borders. They incline to feel that if their own police state is efficient enough, and the army well enough equipped, they can hold the laager until the black states reveal their inherent weakness—or until the West needs South Africa in another conflict. They are Afrikaner-centred, and do not understand world change. A year is not long to re-educate them, if that is what Mr Vorster proposes to attempt.

# Conservative leadership

Mr Maurice Cowling I do not understand what all the great Conservatives are sound-off about. The Conservative Party was defeated not because of policies (except, marginally at Europe) but because of a large part of the electorate (including those who voted Conservative) were called by a party which had been paralyzed by conflict between its leaders. Who can doubt that the slay of innumerable electors who

wished Mr Heath well seven years ago has been effectively destroyed by the battle which he and Mr Powell have fought publicly over its carcass? The Conservative party contains a lot of opinions, a fair number of principles and a good many possible hopes and fears of all their members. What it needs now is not divisive "philosophy" or premature definition (or even perhaps, in ideal circumstances, a new leader). What it

needs is to heal the rift, so that electors whose sympathies have been alienated can want to come back, and Conservatives can feel that the leadership is capable of bringing intelligence and ambiguity to the task of responding to the hopes and fears of all their members. Yours faithfully, MAURICE COWLING, Peterhouse, Cambridge, November 2.

# No right to break the law

From the President of The Law Society  
Sir, Your leader "No right to break the law" concluded with the words "This is not, or should not be, a party dispute. It concerns respect and backing for the law, at a time when that indispensable cement of civil society is one of the commodities of which there is a serious shortage."  
I write to endorse those words. The Law Society studiously avoids involvement in party political matters though its members are involved in all political parties. We have no hesitation in speaking out on behalf of our branch of the legal profession in condemnation of any individual or corporation or government which seeks to put the Rule of Law aside, for whatever reason. This respect is an occasion when such a protest must be made by lawyers, in defence of the right of the citizens of this country to be governed and protected by the Rule of Law.  
To relieve people who deliberately break the law from the consequences of their actions is familiar to us as future breaches by anybody who dislikes a particular law, in the hope or expectation that powerful friends will ensure his immunity from punishment.  
Yours faithfully,  
E. H. SINGLTON,  
President, Room,  
The Law Society's Hall,  
Chancery Lane, WC2.

# Too many doctors from abroad

From the Members of the Council of the National Association of Clinical Tutors  
Sir, We, consultants in district general hospitals appointed by universities to be responsible for the organization of medical teaching in our areas, write this letter as we are deeply concerned over the dependence of hospital medical practice on doctors from abroad and, in particular, over the trends at consultant levels.  
Already 13 per cent of all consultants in the National Health Service are trained outside this country and, more important, of all Senior Registrars, from whose ranks future consultants are appointed 29 per cent are non-trained overseas. These figures are an average for all specialties. In some shortage specialties the numbers are higher—in geriatrics for instance 25 per cent of consultants and 61 per cent of Senior Registrars did not graduate in Britain. In mental illness comparable figures are 17 per cent and 27 per cent. In these two very different fields, the care of the elderly and the welfare of mentally disturbed patients the importance of the doctor being of the same ethos as the patient is particularly clear. We believe that any country can usually have a majority of its doctors from elsewhere but a substantial proportion would nowhere be undesirable.  
Urgent action is required now if these trends in hospital medicine are to be reversed. To do this it is necessary to train more doctors in this country and ensure that a career in hospital medicine is attractive enough to stop the continuing net emigration and loss to other branches of medicine of British-trained doctors.  
It is ludicrous to deny a medical career to our own gifted young men

# Future of cane sugar

From Mr Nigel Spearling, Labour MP for Newham South  
Sir, The letter of Richard Mayne (November 5), head of the London office of the EEC Commission, will do nothing to reassure those who retire sugar for their living. Over three thousand do so in any constituency. As the proposals with the "Lardisio Plan" is at best short term, and at worst may not work at all. He implies that our problems are not the fault of the EEC. Whilst it is true that some of our cane sugar suppliers have recently sold elsewhere, he must also agree that the EEC have been most reluctant to do anything that might persuade them that there is a future for cane sugar in Europe.  
On the contrary, with the long term aim of self-sufficiency in beet sugar, the EEC have done everything to suggest that cane sugar should be excluded. In May 1971, the request of the United Kingdom for long-term entry of specific quantities was not agreed. Instead there was the famous *aura* a cone, and even this has yet to be demonstrated in practice. On June 27, 1972, the then Opposition tried to write in conditions, including the 1.4m tons, into the Communities Bill, but was defeated by eight votes. Since then the "bankers' assurances" have consistently bounced, even if the next presentation succeeds, success will be very late indeed.  
Long-term arrangements for importing cane sugar at fair prices assisting Third World producers, is fair for the consumers, and gives regular employment to refinery workers. Even if the EEC at last concede the point that cane and beet can and should co-exist the delays will not be to their credit. Yours, etc,  
NIGEL SPEARLING,  
House of Commons.

# Private patients in NHS

From Mr E. W. Hammetman  
Sir, It seems that one of Britain's most paralyzing diseases, "queueitis", is claiming a new victim—hospital pay-beds.  
It is in the name of this obsession that people with moderate incomes, who value privacy when ill above bigger cars and colour television, will in future be prevented from exercising the decreasing freedom of choice left to them by the modern state. In this case the freedom to choose a private hospital for the health and well-being of their families.  
But the people who will not suffer from the dogmatic antics of the present Government will be the really wealthy. They will laugh (if circumstances permit) all the way to the luxurious clinics over here and over seas—clinics which are one of each for the moderate income man, even if he has joined an insurance scheme. Especially those who have reached retirement find it increasingly difficult to meet the ever increasing costs of those schemes and they are not always able to afford payments which would compensate them sufficiently for going into private hospitals or clinics.  
Pay-beds were a good compromise reached by wiser men than are now at the helm. There are many people who, when ill, prefer wards to the isolation of a private room. Others prefer to pay for psychological relief rather than suffer in silence and their being forced into putting their books down and discussing their symptoms with others would be an added torture.  
If the Government plans on pay-beds are put into effect nobody will be except perhaps on paper. But the loss (if not the gain) of the still thinking part of the population) and, above all, in medical expertise, will be enormous. Yours faithfully,  
E. W. HAMMETMAN,  
7 Prae Cluse,  
St Albans,  
Herts., Herts.,  
November 6.

# Art and investment

From Mr George J. Levy and Mr Godfrey Pilkington  
Sir, Mr Peter Wilson, Chairman of Sotheby's writes (November 7) "works of art will provide one of the few investment opportunities". However, it has always been our opinion and that of many of our colleagues in the trade that works of art cannot properly be equated with stocks and shares, and thus the term investment as applied to works of art is in reality a fundamental misconception. Even if the EEC at last concede the point that cane and beet can and should co-exist the delays will not be to their credit. Yours, etc,  
GEORGE J. LEVY, President,  
British Antique Dealers' Association Ltd,  
GODFREY PILKINGTON, Chairman,  
Society of London Art Dealers,  
As from 20 Rutland Gate, SW7.

# Incentives for charity

From Lord Longford  
Sir, The current serious economic crisis threatens the living standards of many people. For some, however, it is a new crisis—there has been with them for most of their lives—they are the homeless and deprived who have known little but poverty. As the Chancellor puts the finish ing touches to his Budget it is perhaps a moment to reflect upon the seriousness of the present situation for those worst affected by inflation—the poor—and those charitable and statutory agencies who seek to assist them. Although I write as chairman of the New Horizon Youth Centre, the problems which we face are little different from those of other small charities which work among them in need. As inflation, unemployment and homelessness begin to bite, we in a setting such as New Horizon experience even heavier work loads, while at the same time our own running costs are also increased by inflation. Many who give to work such as ours, understandably reduce their giving in times of economic difficulty. Yet it is at precisely such times that we are needed most. Were it not for the fact that our own staff have taken a salary cut, our work would have had to be curtailed. Many voluntary agencies are faced with cut-backs and closures. Yet, as we know all too well, the statutory services have no prospect of moving in their stead. As we face a winter of sacrifice and hardship, it is surely right to ask that statutory provision for the poor should be maintained at least at its present level, and that those who wish to give to charitable concerns should be given every possible incentive to do so. Yours sincerely,  
LONGFORD,  
New Horizon Youth Centre,  
1 Macklin Street, WC2.

# Devolution to the regions

From Lord Raglan  
Sir, Mr Tam Dalyell complains (Letters, November 1) of "the continuing attitude of some of the English media towards things Scottish"; but he is only describing London looking down its nose at the provinces, as Paris does at the rest of France. This superiority of tone is and has for hundreds of years been directed towards everywhere from Cornwall to Cornwall and if it were a cause of separation by now every county would be demanding independence. He goes on to say that "over 70 per cent of the Scots who bothered to vote rejected separation", yet that is not in fact true; electors were only given a choice of different degrees of separation. Scotland has retained a separating border and a separate law and has acquired a separate Secretary of State who has a separate department. It seems probable from Mr Dalyell's sensitivity to what he sees as "English" criticism that he feels separate too. From experience at Westminster it appears to me that because Scotland already has so many special arrangements for itself that other MPs do not take the interest in Scottish affairs that otherwise they would, and so the feeling of alienation gets compounded. If Scotland were to get a separate parliament (and it would not be as a regional devolutionary parliament, but to mark Scotland's distinction as a nation) Westminster would find itself taking even less interest in Scotland, and as the machinery for separate government would then have been set up, it is a reasonable bet that in a few decades Scotland would go independent. The British custom of creating Secretaries of State, Governors

# The clear purpose of Nato

From Mr Hugh Hanning  
Sir, Ludovic Kennedy's article on November 5 on the defence of Northern Norway was extremely vivid, but it was disturbing to find him questioning whether Nato would automatically come to Norway's defence if she were attacked. This impugns not only the whole purpose of Nato, but also says at the chief foundation of peace in the world. In this century, two world wars started because the aggressor genuinely did not know whether he would meet with serious opposition. The Kaiser did not know whether Britain would fight for Belgium. Hitler could not believe that Britain would fight for Poland. The whole *raison d'être* of Nato has been to eliminate this element of uncertainty. In our time the greatest dangers of World War Three have all occurred in areas where Russia was unsure of Western intentions: Korea, Cuba, the Middle East, the Congo. This was often because, like Asquith's cabinet, the West did not know its own intentions. In Europe thanks to Nato there has been no misunderstanding, and no war. Norway may be hard to defend. So is West Berlin. But Nato is pledged to defend Norway, and dramatizes that pledge with exercises on the Northern flank involving British, Canadian, American, Belgian, Danish, Dutch, German and Italian forces. This is as it should be. If we permit any doubts in alien minds as to our intentions to defend any part of the Alliance, we could all be engulfed in a very nasty accident. Yours faithfully,  
HUGH HANNING, Director,  
The British Atlantic Committee,  
Benjamin Franklin House,  
36 Craven Street, WC2,  
November 6.

# Clergy stipends

From the Reverend Bruce Reed  
Sir, The call by the Reverend C Lawson-Tancred for an effective professional body to further the right of interests of parochial clergy in stipendiary and allied matters (November 5) is at one and the same time a challenge to the laity and a rebuff to the episcopate. Church Commissioners and other ecclesiastical authorities only determine the minimum stipends, which are supplemented from central funds. There are plenty of experienced lay businessmen in local churches who are aware of the financial state of their clergy. To the relief of their fellow parishioners and to contribute to clergy stipends, they are showing the value they place upon their ministry. How many parochial church councils place this matter high on their agenda? The professional body, as distinct from their interests in the episcopate. They are not only the pastors of the parishes, but also their "shop stewards", who represent those who share with them the "cure of souls" to those who manage the assets of the Church of England. What is needed is to find ways of supporting bishops to take their share in the operation, not least in setting up an unofficial union, which will only push them further into being over-burdened administrators, by treating them as if they were reluctant members of a board of directors. Yours faithfully,  
BRUCE REED,  
5 Lake House,  
South Hill Park, NW3.

# Tied cottages

From Rear Admiral I. J. Lees Spalding  
Sir, Mr David Gemmill's letter (The Times, November 2) puts the case for the tied cottage system fully. What needs emphasizing in this connection is that there are a large number of areas where the system is in operation, not least in those controlled by the Government. Mr Gemmill's list in his second paragraph is not intended to be complete. If I may mention a few more, there are the Navy, Army, St George's Hospital Medical School, Blackshaw Road, SW17, November 4.

# Cost of timber

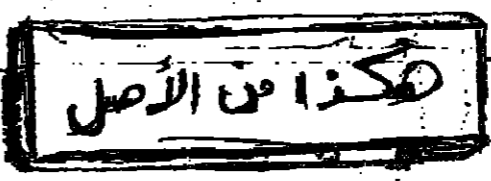
From Mr Joseph Dean  
Sir, Instead of crying for help from government, as Mr Methuen suggests (November 2), tree owners might do better if they banded together to make sure that they get a proper price from timber or pulp merchants. Anybody who wants to fell or sell a tree or to buy a gatepost will be astonished by the amount he has to pay on both transactions. It should not be impossible for one of the country associations to organize some sort of cooperative both to advise its members about the real market value of trees and to provide a felling and selling service, whether the trees stand in large or small plantations or even alone. As things are nowadays, a vast amount of valuable timber goes, one might say, by the board. Yours faithfully,  
JOSEPH DEAN,  
The Hall,  
West Braburne,  
Ashford, Kent.

# A simplistic question

From Mr A. J. Brayshaw  
Sir, What does simplistic mean? Does it simply (or simplistically) mean simple? I think it's horrendous. Yours truly,  
A. J. BRAYSHAW,  
Apple Trees,  
Reech Road,  
Haslemere, Surrey.



THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS



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Severe shortage of rail trucks holds up coal for power station

By Edward Townsend. Lord Robens, chairman of Vickers, spoke out strongly in London yesterday against what he saw as the weakness of British society...

Lord Robens hits out at 'industrial destruction'

By Edward Townsend. Lord Robens, chairman of Vickers, spoke out strongly in London yesterday against what he saw as the weakness of British society...

Data service by brokers expanding in Europe

By John Wilmore. At a time when the pressure is on the stockbroking community to cut back its costs...

Shell seeks inflation accountability reform as income surges ahead

By Anthony Rowley. Royal Dutch/Shell, the Anglo-Dutch oil group, yesterday came out in favour of accounting reforms to prevent companies being taxed on unrealistic profits...

Further OPEC cost increases applicable from October 1 will add an additional £100m to replacement costs...

Close look at financial statements to be made

By John Plender. Financial Correspondent. A re-examination of the aims and scope of published financial statements is being undertaken by a working party of the professional accountants...

Dupont offering of \$300m well received

By Frank Vogel. Dupont's offering of \$300m in new bonds today was met with the most successful flotation of any ever public offering...

Pay dispute settled at Chrysler

By R. W. Shakespeare. A long and troublesome pay dispute involving key toolroom workers at Chrysler's two Coventry car plants was settled yesterday...

Ever Ready cleared of abusing monopoly

By Maurice Corina. A Monopolies Commission recommendation that significant reductions should be made in the price of Mallory photographic batteries has been accepted...

55pc decline in private house starts

By Patricia Tisdall. Only 7,000 new private houses were started in September compared with 18,000 in the same month last year...

Details given of how crisis hit WAB

By Christopher Wilkins. The extent of the crisis experienced during the summer by Western American Bank (WAB) is now being clear...

Several consortium banks were in the forefront of those falling under the cloud of suspicion...

Bill provides for state takeovers of Scottish oil sites

Offshore oil production sites are to be taken into public ownership under the terms of the Offshore Petroleum Development (Scotland) Bill...

INTERIM STATEMENT THE NEW THROGMORTON TRUST LIMITED. INTERIM REVENUE STATEMENT. Six months to 30.9.74, Six months to 30.9.73, Year ended 31.3.74.

Bonn may decide on Herstatt

Cologne, Nov 7.—Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, said that the Bonn government might have to intervene in a satisfactory arrangement for compensating creditors of Bankhaus ID Herstatt...

Mr Benn guide to NVT workers

Mr Benn, Secretary of State for Industry, is to visit the Norton Villiers Triumph plant at Small Heath, Birmingham, today to explain to employees how the workers' co-operative at the former Triumph factory at near-by Meriden will operate...

How the markets moved

Rises: Aust Estates 7p to 12p, Eric England 1p to 13p, Broken Hill 2p to 35p, Com Union 3p to 78p. Falls: Ass Port Cement 4p to 8p, Ericksen Mines 25p to 28p, Buxton Oil 6p to 14p.

THE POUND

Australia \$ 1.35, Austria Sch 44.25, Belgium Fr 91.00, Canada \$ 2.35, Denmark Kr 14.20, Finland 9.00, France Fr 11.15, Germany DM 6.10, Greece Dr 72.75, Hongkong \$ 12.05, Italy L 1650.00, Japan Y 750.00, Netherlands Gld 6.25, Norway Kr 13.10, Portugal Esc 63.00, S Africa Rd 1.77, Spain P 137.50, Sweden Kr 10.40, Switzerland Fr 6.80, US \$ 2.39, Yugoslavia Dnr 43.00.

Interim Statements

Company Name, Page Number. Interim Statements: Compagnie Francaise des Petroles 21, Debenhams 24, Head Wrightson & Co 19, The New Throgmorton Trust 19.

Head Wrightson half year report

Half-year to 31 July 1974, Half-year to 31 July 1973, Year to 31 Jan 1974. Turnover: £3,717, £1,873, £40,369. Trading Profit before interest and exceptional items: 748, 1,022, 2,307.

Head Wrightson & Co. Ltd., The Friarage, Yarn, Cleveland. HEAD WRIGHTSON

# RHA calls for more than 20pc on charges

By David Young

Members of the Road Haulage Association have been told by their vice-chairman that many face bankruptcy unless there is an increase in haulage rates by well over 20 per cent.

Mr John Silbermann, speaking in Norwich yesterday, said an increase in prices charged to customers in the region of 20 per cent "is not even adequate to keep us in business any longer".

Bankruptcies in the road haulage industry have risen considerably this year and Mr Silbermann told his members that it may be more sensible to fail financially without wearing out trucks and trailers. "Keep the vehicles in your depots unless the customers are prepared to pay the right prices", he urged.

He told members that it is the duty of hauliers to calculate what price rises are needed to run businesses profitably, and then insist on these prices. "The age-old tendency to cut rates means unless we want to see an all-time record of business failure in the road haulage industry."

"What you have to make up your minds about is whether you want to go out of business by inadequate pricing leading to financial failure, or whether you want to work and wear out your rolling stock without purpose, or whether you want to attempt to remain in business on perhaps a modest scale by working on what is left of the income returns a modest return for your investment."

The soaring cost of replacing lorries—prices of new vehicles have risen in the past year by between 25 and 100 per cent—and interest rates were blamed by Mr Silbermann for pushing up costs even before the latest settlement in the Scottish drivers' strike.

# Shipbuilders demand interim policy pending nationalization

By Peter Hill

The Government has been urged to adopt an interim policy which will provide Britain's shipbuilding industry with maximum flexibility in advance of legislation, for extending nationalization to the shipbuilding, ship-repairing and marine engineering industries.

In his inaugural address after taking over as president of the Shipbuilders and Repairers National Association last night, Mr A. Ross Belch said that the industry found the prospect of operating in a vacuum "profoundly disturbing".

The association, he said, accepted that it was unreasonable for a complex piece of legislation to be completed speedily in a congested parliamentary programme, yet it was equally unreasonable to expect the industries concerned to operate in a state of acute uncertainty over a prolonged period.

It was for this reason that the SRNA had appealed to the Government to introduce a satisfactory interim arrangement which would enable management to operate flexibly in a climate unaffected by the weakening of commercial confidence which continued uncertainty tended to produce.

Leaders of the SRNA will meet Mr Wedgwood Benn, Secretary of State for Industry, on Wednesday next to discuss his plans for nationalization.

SRNA officials are hopeful that they will be able to persuade Mr Benn to at least consider incorporating some aspects of their alternative plans into the legislation—although Mr Benn has so far steadfastly refused even to discuss the framework of a policy which could be established within three months.

The shipbuilding industry is anxious that the Treasury should not have excessive controlling powers over the development of a national policy for shipbuilding. Senior executives within the industry believe that given control over the industry, the framework of a policy could be established within three months.

Group, made it clear last night that the industry would seek to make nationalization work, provided it was based on a feasible formula, and he outlined some of the points which the industry will underline at its meeting with Mr Benn next week.

It will emphasize the importance of fair and reasonable compensation for shareholders affected by a state takeover, and the need for the degree of central control over the industry to be minimized so as to preserve the individual identity of companies.

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Backlog of patents applications is new fear

A mountain of unexamined patent applications may arise if proposals put forward to a working party now engaged in organizing the future European Patent Office is adopted.

Seven working parties are already engaged in organizing all aspects of the EPO to be built in Munich. Among their duties are patent searching and examination procedures and staff matters such as training.

At a recent meeting concern was expressed over the number of European countries that will ask for EPO work to be subcontracted in as large a backlog of unexamined patent applications as is acceptable should be allowed to accumulate in some national offices between now and the Munich opening in a few years.

The British Patent Office has a backlog of over 50,000 unexamined applications, which usually means in practice a delay of at least a year before any new patent application is examined. This delay is a continual burden to industry and any further increase would be crippling.

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# Controversy over stock appreciation

From Mr P. M. D. Gibbs

Sir, At the risk of getting caught in the cross-fire between London and Cambridge I venture to enter the controversy about stock appreciation which was so vividly described in Peter Jay's article on November 1.

The first point to emphasize is that although the accounting profit may be numerically equal to the stock appreciation (as in output period 2 in Godley and Wood's example) it cannot be caused by stock appreciation because accountants do not enter stock values above cost. Higher closing stock values, reflecting a rise in unit costs, merely offset some of the higher purchase prices which have already been charged to the profit and loss account. This point is not at issue. The debate is over whether some or all of the resulting stock appreciation could be deducted from the published profit in order to arrive at the "real" profit which should ideally form the basis of pricing, taxation and dividend policies.

The conundrum posed by Godley and Wood can be expressed as follows: if stock appreciation does not represent real profit how is it that the company in the above example could sell off its stocks, repay its overdraft and end up with a surplus of £30? The answer lies in their choice of an example in which the stock is entirely financed by borrowed money.

Profit can be regarded as the difference between the net worth of the company at the beginning and end of the period plus any taxes and dividends paid out. In the example in question the initial net worth is £100 stock less £100 overdraft. One presumes that there was general inflation of 30 per cent during the period since the overdraft was repaid. The example represents the corporate sector as a whole. Thus £100 at the beginning of the period has the same purchasing power as £130 at the end of the period and the initial net worth can be rewritten in terms of end of period £s as £130 stock less £130 overdraft. Comparing this with the actual closing net worth of £130 stock less £100 overdraft (subject to taxes and dividends) shows that there has indeed been a real gain of £30 but this is due to the gain on the monetary liabilities. If the company pays out the whole £30 gain in taxes and dividends it will have to borrow another £30 but this can scarcely be hailed as a "liquidity crisis" since it will merely be restoring the real level of its borrowing to the value at the beginning of the period.

The problem gets more complicated if we take the example a stage further and make the alternative assumption that, although the company's stock prices have risen 30 per cent, there is no general inflation. There is then no gain on the monetary liabilities. If the company continues in business, it has exactly what it started with, say 100 units of baked beans less an overdraft of £100. So looking at it as a monetary entity it can be said to have made no profit and it will have to borrow an extra £30 (this time a real addition to its borrowing) if it pays out its £30 paper profit in taxes and dividends. But if it closes down it could realize £30 more from its beans than it started with. So in this sense it could be regarded as having made a real gain of £30 from trading.

The two possible answers during a period when there is a marked difference between the rate of cost increases experienced by the company and the general rate of inflation illustrate the different approaches to stock appreciation (RC) and current purchasing power (CPP) schools of accounting. The RC advocates would always deduct the actual stock appreciation in arriving at real profits. The CPP school would deduct stock appreciation calculated in accordance with the retail price index.

The conclusion is that accounting is an inexact art but, as Keynes is believed to have said, "it is better to be vaguely right than precisely wrong". With inflation running at 20 per cent pa. there is an overwhelming case for basing both taxation and pricing policy on some estimate of companies' real profits. This will involve making an adjustment for stock appreciation either based on the general index or on the company's own rate of cost increases. Deducting stock appreciation is, however, only one of the three main planks of inflation accounting, the other ones being the increase in the depreciation charge and the gain or loss (usually a substantial gain) on the net monetary position. Making only two of these adjustments without the third was done in the famous Mettett and Sykes article on the "financial doomsday machine".

Who knows, they might prefer our balance sheets serve purpose for which nature tended them, instead of using them all things to all men and devise more suitable means for other purposes. (In passing, are not the fleets engaged on different courses? Messrs Godley Wood have in their sights individual enterprise—corporate sector treated as firm—which has begun and end of days: the two fessors, the economy po and continuing, which, for purpose, like Melchizedek, neither.)

Yours faithfully,  
ROY COOBY,  
18 Kings Avenue,  
Carnsham,  
Surrey, SM5 4NX.

Key meetings next week on Yorkshire canal project

Crucial meeting will take place next week between officials of the British Waterways Board and the Department of the Environment which will determine whether or not the Government will provide £3m to support the development of 15 miles of waterway in south Yorkshire.

The scheme has been under consideration by the DoE for a long time and would involve upgrading of the Sheffield and South Yorkshire Canal between Doncaster and Rotherham so that the existing capacity of the waterway would be expanded to cope with barges of up to 700 tons as far as Mexborough, and of 400 tons to Rotherham.

Ever since the BWB's freight services division put forward the idea—which would link with the Barge Aboard Catamaran (BACAT) service operating from

Kuwait could increase oil royalties if reductions on posted prices agreed

A drop in the posted price of crude oil would not affect the Kuwait government's oil revenues, because royalties could be increased to make good the difference, Mr Abdulrahman Salem al-Arti, the Kuwaiti Minister of Finance and Petroleum said yesterday.

Lower posted prices could however appease "the violent campaign orchestrated against producing countries," he said during a briefing on ministerial conference of oil producers, due to open in Abu Dhabi at the weekend.

Saudi pledge: Saudi Arabia has promised to try to hold the line on oil prices or work for a nominal cut at the meeting of oil-producing states next month in Vienna.

Mr Omar Saqqaf, the foreign minister made the promise to Dr Henry Kissinger, United States Secretary of State after a

Bank economist sounds warning against reflation

A warning was sounded by Mr William Manser, a leading economist, yesterday that this would be the worst time in the past 30 years for the Government to reflate the economy.

A vast programme of new state expenditure would be reflation in itself, he says, in the National Westminster Bank's quarterly review.

Mr Manser, economic adviser to a London merchant bank and a former international relations chief of the British Iron and Steel Federation, gives a grim warning on the dangers of a world recession.

"Faced with an oil deficit which cannot be paid for on current account, which cannot effectively be financed on international markets and which, even if it could be converted into debt, could not then be repaid, governments will come under strong pressure simply to reduce the level of economic activity."

The way out was simple enough. A rational structure of oil and raw material prices could be built at levels which could be absorbed without major dislocation. The surplus revenues of primary suppliers should be used to buying goods, services and acquiring long-term assets, he argues.

BSC warns strikers of threat to 9,000 jobs

By R. W. Shakespeare

Northern Industrial Correspondent

The 1,600 craftsmen whose strike has caused the shutdown of all steelmaking operations at the British Steel Corporation's £22m plant at Llanwern, near Newport, South Wales, are to meet today. It seems likely that they will vote to continue their week-long stoppage over a bonus dispute. If they do, lay-offs are certain to begin immediately among 4,500 other manual workers.

The crucial meeting is being held against the background of a strongly worded warning in a letter sent out by the BSC to each of the strikers, saying that a prolonged shutdown would put the jobs of all 9,000 employees at Llanwern in jeopardy.

The letter brought angry protests yesterday from

Year-end Japanese trade gap of \$5,000m forecast

One of Japan's leading economic research institutes, the Japan Foreign Trade Council, predicted today that the country would wind up the current financial year with a deficit of \$5,000m (about £2,121m) in her trade balance. During the previous fiscal year the trade deficit was \$5,327m.

According to the council's rough estimates, exports are expected to amount to \$58,000m and imports to \$63,000m by March next year. This would represent a 46.1 per cent increase in exports and a 40.2 per cent rise in imports over the year before.

The council's predictions today undermine more optimistic

W German jobs up 21pc in a month

Bonn, Nov 7.—West Germany's unemployed rose by nearly 21 per cent last month compared with September, according to figures published today. The total in October was 672,000, or 3 per cent of the total labour force, 115,000 more than in September.

October car output 21pc below year ago

Britain's motor industry produced an estimated 124,000 cars and 35,000 commercial vehicles during the first four weeks in October, the Department of Industry said yesterday. During the same four weeks in 1973 car output was 21 per cent higher at 156,718.

Italy's inflation highest in EEC

Brussels, Nov 7.—Italian consumer prices rose 20.3 per cent in September compared with a year before—the highest inflation rate in the European Economic Community, according to statistics issued today by the EC commission.

Seasonally adjusted unemployment was down 4 per cent in August at 999,600. This was the only decline registered in the Community.

On a year-to-year basis, Ireland's consumer prices showed the next highest increase at 17.9 per cent in September. Denmark's rose 16.6 per cent, Britain's 15.8 per cent, France's 14.7 per cent, and West Germany's 10.5 per cent, Holland's 10.3 per cent and West Germany's 7.3 per cent.

West Germany's September unemployment rose 131.7 per cent in a year, according to adjusted 716,300, topped only by Denmark with a 144.7 per cent rise to 58,000.

In the Netherlands, unemployment totalled 152,800 in September, an increase of 32 per cent over the year before. Britain with a 20.2 per cent rise to 683,700.—AP-Dow Jones.

UK beer most heavily taxed

Beer in Britain is more heavily taxed than in most other European countries. A survey published yesterday in the Brewers' Society's official journal examines beer taxes in eight countries.

It finds that although the selling price of beer is lower than in any of the countries studied, the tax at 27 per cent of selling price is higher than anywhere except the Irish Republic. The lowest percentage tax, at 13.4, is paid in Italy.

Franklin Bank takeover agreed

Washington, Nov 7.—The Justice Department has indicated it would have no objection on anti-trust grounds to the acquisition of the Franklin National Bank of New York by the American Bank and Trust Company.

The bank was declared insolvent before it was purchased last month by the European American Bank and Trust Company, which is jointly owned by six European banking institutions.—AP-Dow Jones.

## DOWDING & MILLS LIMITED

**ANOTHER YEAR OF RECORD SALES & PROFITS**

Group turnover including new acquisition rose by 41.2% and profits before tax by 30.4%.

Following the increased interim payment the Directors recommend a Final Dividend of 11.536% making a total for the year of 20.446% against 19.60%.

	1974	1973
Sales	5,269,722	3,732,384
Profit before tax	1,018,483	780,836
Profit after tax	478,698	448,490
<i>Pence per share</i>		
Net assets	17.27	14.49
Earnings after tax	3.53	2.94
Net dividends	1.02	0.98

The A. G. M. will be held at the Chamber of Commerce, Birmingham at 12.30 pm on Monday, 2nd December 1974.

Copies of the Report and Accounts may be obtained from the Secretary, at the Registered Office, 193 Camp Hill, Birmingham B12 0JJ.

## DOWDING & MILLS

Shipping chief predicts cheaper oil

At the yard of A. G. Weser in Bremen yesterday (The Sunday Express) Europe's largest tanker, the 386,000-ton Ioannis Colocotronis, took to the water amid perhaps more good wishes from the assembled company of international banking, shipping and oil men than has been usual on such occasions in recent years.

The world today is a very different one from that in which the London-Greek Colocotronis Group, exercising it seemed, the shrewdness and flair that has carried it from a one ship to a 70 ship fleet in 10 years, ordered the Ioannis Colocotronis and a sister ship two years ago.

Tanker rates were rising so fast that Mr Hilmar Reiksten, the Norwegian shipping magnate, was chartering ships at spot rates that would soon pay the entire cost of a new super-tanker in a year.

It seemed a distinct coup by Colocotronis to book the first

Shipping chief predicts cheaper oil

pair of a new class of super-tankers at a fixed price of \$60m each with one of Europe's best yards.

Within the past month, in a move that sent a shudder through the industry, four giant 420,000-tonners to be built for Hilmar Reiksten by Norway's Aker Group were cancelled.

Spot rates have tumbled from more than World scale 400 to under 100 and with an impending glut of tanker tonnage for years ahead in some experts' views, yards as well as owners are anxious to unload themselves of orders already placed.

But Mr Mihos Colocotronis, the 54-year-old head of the group, remains remarkably sanguine with one big reservation.

The reservation is the Arabs and Israel. Another conflagration is possible in the next few months. If that happens, it would be surprising, Mr Colocotronis

Learning from Russia in alumina outp

When it occurred on a small scale in the nineteenth century, but the effective destruction of an important source of iron ore is now undesirable, and also unnecessary, since both aluminium and iron can be extracted from bauxite if current processing methods are changed.

If shale is made the aluminium industry's base material, this will open the way to a more productive use of bauxite itself, so benefiting both the iron-producing countries, and also the United Kingdom, which has potentially valuable bauxite resources not used by the aluminium industry.

The establishment of an alumina industry in Britain linked with cement manufacture and based on indigenous minerals, should therefore be regarded as an essential interest, able to provide important economic benefits as well as to guarantee supply of feed material for aluminium smelters at a low cost; and since no technical difficulty is involved in the undertaking, could be effected, and at a cost of alumina phased within a few years.

Yours faithfully,  
D. L. LEVI,  
Clerton Research Associates  
20 Polstead Road,  
Oxford.

TRAFFORD PARK ESTATES LIMITED

Extracts from the Accounts and the Statement by the Chairman, Mr. N. G. Westbrook, presented at the Annual General Meeting held in Manchester on 6th November, 1974.

	1974	1973
Year ended 30th June		
Profit before Interest and Tax	£952,473	£845,12
Interest payable	£240,272	£294,08
Taxation	£ 65,988	£ 93,13
Retained Profits (1974 including £22,285 from non-distributable reserve being profit on sale of property)	£318,252	£155,56
Earnings per share	5.48p	5.30p
Net dividend per share (maximum permissible)	2.77p	2.78p

\* The standstill on business rent increases is preventing the collection of additional rentals already agreed, amounting to over £20,000 per annum.

\* Notwithstanding the changed outlook for property development, the Company has rising rental income which provides a sound basis for the future.

\* Due to agreements reached with major customers the Warehousing Subsidiary should be able to increase its contribution to the group profits.

Shipping chief predicts cheaper oil

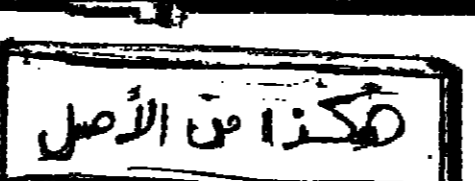
thinks, if the Arabs did not use again the weapon they have already found so effective, and put the squeeze on Western powers by curtailing oil yet further.

With some kind of solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict, Mr Colocotronis is optimistic about the future. "We are assessing the situation very carefully at this moment in the light of the food and energy situation, and talks between world leaders."

"Oil prices must come down and the financial crisis settled or the world—which is after all the bank's basic customers—the Arabs are—will go bust."

On this basis Mr Colocotronis expects world oil consumption, which has been falling in the past year, to resume its former growth of 5-6 per cent a year, but with radically changed patterns.

Michael Bailey



EDITOR  
Appreciation

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

# Penalties of sales growth at Boots

In the immediate future the price of Boots is subject to the imponderable—the conduct of Mr Healey's briefcase today. This has not reduced some lively action in areas, which went sharply reverse prior to announcement of the half-year figures and then on down thereafter to 11p. It is thought it is the 4.8 per cent reduction pre-tax for the month to end-September a significant break in the profits pattern and the first net increase in sales—more than one third—entering real volume—from what was generated has in fact provoked unfavourable reactions with British Home and Mothercare.

It is that Boots has been fact out for sales growth, both eyes directed more on the competition than effects of rising costs on margins. On the strength of October sales figures—after an acceleration from 20 per cent in the rate of rise between the first and second quarters of the year—top reckons to be achieving objectives, while the throughput is now per group better to rising costs and to cope the margins control which aimed to have affected the base profits.

Of the possible changes in however, which pose the threat to Boots' second-half performance, with an estimated 10 per cent of its retail sales going to "luxury"—and margin—goods.

Things being equal, however, the group is looking for improvement in its second performance (as against first half), which should pre-tax profits for the month of at least £62m (as against £52m). That puts the shares maximum prospective P/E of just over 7, which looks a little pessimistic, although prospective yield of under 6 nothing to recommend it.

1974 (1973)  
Capitalization £208.4m  
Sales £1,938.6m  
Net income £304.4m (E27.8m)  
Dividend gross 2.43p (2.19p)

price firmness indicates that the price is already discounting a further squeeze on European margins. The yield is 7.3 per cent.

Third quarter: 1974 (1973)  
Capitalization\* £867m  
Sales, £3,571m (£1,765m)  
Net income £304m (£167m)  
\* "Shell" T & T.

## Debenhams Mixed views for 1975

Debenhams' comparatively firm share price during the past week or so was due to market hints of a strong recovery in trading profits next year. However, yesterday brought matters into perspective. Interim profits slumping from £5.2m to a mere £112,000, and this after some £592,000 of property credits.

Faced with net borrowings in February of £58m and a sluggish retail scene, a substantial price-cutting programme was instituted at a cost to profits of £2m. This has now been confined to slow-moving and high-margin lines, but only after many of the department stores had run at a loss for much of the period to mid-August. The Caters supermarket group ran at a loss with the accountancy/computer troubles still not ironed out.

Borrowings are still around £45m after allowing for the £6m sale-and-lease back of the Welbeck Street site with the possibility of a reduction to £35m by the year end—if further property sales are transacted. Against this, stock turn and costs have substantially improved and the first benefits of the store refurbishment programme are coming through.

The most significant factor, perhaps, is that the interim dividend is held. This may have favourable implications for the full year, and infers similar second-half profits to last year and thus profits of £10.8m (£10.8m). At 31p, down 4p, the shares with a possible yield of 19 1/2 per cent, are not taking an enthusiastic view of recovery chances. Perhaps that makes them one of the better gambles in the retail sector?

Interim 1974-75 (1973-74)  
Capitalization £24.7m  
Sales £117m (£107m)  
Pre-tax profits £0.11m (£5.20m)  
Dividend gross 2.12p (2.12p)

## Hoover And worse to come?

There must be few things capable of shocking this puny stock market, but Hoover managed it yesterday. A £4m dive in pre-tax profits for the third quarter was accompanied by the scratching of heads and the scraping of slide rules throughout the City's research units where earlier estimates were shown to be widely over-optimistic.

Hoover placed industrial disruption at the bottom of its list of culprits. Plant shut-downs at Cambuslang, Lanarkshire, and Merthyr, South Wales, only affected the final month of the third quarter, not long enough to inflict more than an estimated £500,000 loss to profits. The three-day week which starts at the top of Hoover's list is obviously irrelevant to the third quarter, which leaves a seemingly huge pressure on profit margins as the main culprit.

The extent of the profits collapse in the United Kingdom is alarming. Stripping out Hoover NV and other overseas profits and allowing for around £600,000 in interest receipts indicates a domestic loss of the

order of £700,000 for the third quarter.

It is difficult to work up much enthusiasm for the final quarter. Management seems determined to sit the strike out and cost pressures showing few signs of abating.

Against this confusing background most analysts are pitching for £8m or so for the year, for a p/e ratio of around 6. That looks as though it should be vulnerable, but the shares shed only a modest 5p to 120p yesterday, suggesting few nervous sellers, and some more optimistic forecasts for 1975.

Third quarter 1974 (1973)  
Capitalization £28.8m  
Sales £32.9m (£23.1m)  
Pre-tax profits £1.55m (£5.4m)

## Capital good Different stories

Process and storage plant makers can earn lots of money—if big contracts are costed properly and labour trouble avoided. Whessoe, Capper-Neill, and Head Wriggison have learnt this the hard way.

Copper took a profits tumble in 1972-73 and allowed Whessoe to barge in with an unsuccessful 47p a share paper bid. Whessoe gave up in June 1973 after the bid went to the Monopolies Commission and then saw its profits collapse. But Capper-Neill roared ahead and yesterday came news of a 60 per cent rise in first half profits and a 45 per cent jump in turnover.

Up went the interim dividend and for the year (to next March) Capper expects profits to be a lot higher than the £807,000 made last time. They could be more than £13m.

Capper Pipe Service is solid with work until next March at least, and Capper-Neill International is full-up for nearly two years. No signs of order book softening have been seen; the contracts are now provided with escalator clauses; and business is well spread over oil platforms, oil storage tanks, and plant for the chemical, motor, and gas and other industries.

The shares rose from 15 1/2p to 22p in the 10 days before the latest news. The yield is a prospective 16.4 per cent and the p/e ratio only 1.2.

By contrast, Head Wriggison found inflation and quirks in supplies of raw materials too much for it in the first half and made net losses of £820,000 against small profits last time. The group did manage a trading profit of 474,000 but interest charges and exceptional provisions of £1.85m, more than half given up in the ironfoundry, swallowed it up.

The group expects to book £80m of orders in the next year to next January. It is also making provisions against a contract in Argentina; three other overseas contracts that went sour; and the development costs so far of venturing into North Sea oil equipment.

The gleam of hope is the expectation that second trading profits will be better than the first half, but this could still leave it with big after-tax losses. The shares shed 8p to 15p after 39p earlier this year and 77 1/2p last year. Their worth now is problematic and we must await the balance sheet for a surer assessment.

Capper-Neill  
Interim: 1974 (1973)  
Capitalization £22m  
Sales £10.67m (£7.36m)  
Pre-tax profits £501,000 (£314,000)  
Dividend gross 1.79p (1.6p)  
Head Wriggison  
Interim: 1974-75 (1973-74)  
Capitalization £2m  
Sales £23.7m (£18.7m)  
Pre-tax loss £1.4m (£431,000 pft)  
Dividend gross nil (1p)

One of the most fundamental and least disputed principles in economics is that you cannot give someone goods which no one else has. However, the principle has been misunderstood for centuries, particularly by governments which believe that it is possible to make people better off by keeping prices down while pursuing policies which keep output levels down as well.

The trouble, of course, is that relaxing price controls, even if it encourages productivity, has effects on the distribution of income which are conventionally believed to be politically awkward.

In present circumstances this objection is particularly compelling because abolition of price controls would probably raise retail prices and the Government must have some notion of the level of price increases which is compatible with the social contract.

Nevertheless, pressure has grown for some alleviation of the strains caused by price controls. Even the TUC, in its Budget representations, acknowledged the case for some relief.

There are two main arguments for relaxation of price controls. The first is that it would indeed provide some assistance for the corporate sector, which is facing severe liquidity and profitability difficulties.

The second is the potential help of a relaxation of price controls. The first is that it would indeed provide some assistance for the corporate sector, which is facing severe liquidity and profitability difficulties.

The problem of evasion is also difficult to handle. Most transactions in any economy are

1 1/2 or 2 per cent if controls were completely abandoned. Other estimates are higher. Phillips and Drew, the stock brokers, have calculated that the progressive removal of the productivity deduction would result in a 3 per cent increase.

The implications for profitability and liquidity are also problematical. The CBI has put forward a figure of £1,500m as the bonus to company profits from a full abolition of price controls. The effects on liquidity are different—because companies would spend more if their profits were higher—but this would probably imply a reduction in the financial deficit in excess of £1,000m.

The Government must have made similar calculations, not only because the sums have implications for the future level of prices, but also because of their importance to stabilization policy. If the corporate sector's liquidity is bolstered by a relaxation of price controls, there will be less need to use fiscal methods for the same end.

There is much room for argument over the precise order of magnitude. The two main difficulties are to distinguish the effect of price controls from the effect of demand conditions and to measure some allowance for evasion.

One of the reasons for the CBI's fairly low estimate of the impact on retail prices is its belief that industry is facing shrinking markets and that intense competition would have eroded profit margins in any case.

The problem of evasion is also difficult to handle. Most transactions in any economy are

between companies, not between the company sector and individuals. But relations between companies depend on a certain amount of goodwill, because this helps continuity of supply, and it is unlikely that one company would complain to the Price Commission if a regular supplier asked a price above that warranted by the legislation.

The second main argument for a relaxation is that price controls have resulted in supply shortages and market distortions. By causing unnecessary bottlenecks at various points in the economy these have had unfavourable effects on productivity.

In the nature of the case, evidence for these assertions is hard to come by. Companies do not publicize their inability to meet customer requirements, especially when it reflects a conscious decision not to produce certain items because they are insufficiently profitable.

Equally it is difficult to attribute supply shortages entirely to price controls. Other factors, such as shortages of commodities, reflect worldwide conditions outside the Government's control, while ordinary supply problems caused by labour disputes have been unusually serious in 1974.

Furthermore, the temptation to break the code when a supply shortage is pressing is clearly difficult to resist. One of the more remarkable, but little mentioned, sections in the Price Commission's sixth report for the June-August, 1974, period was that on inspections to ensure compliance.

The Price Commission carried out 300 inspections of category

three companies to see if they were abiding by the Price Code's provisions.

A quarter of the enterprises inspected were exceeding their reference levels.

Evasion among small companies must be extensive. In relation to the overall economy, savings of £14m are, of course, minuscule. But there is another point. If small companies are breaking the code at will, supply shortages arising from the controls to large companies are probably also being removed fairly easily.

This is not to say that the Price Code is not causing distortions. The transfer of business from large to small firms is itself a distortion. But it can be said that no firm or reliable reference is available of the scale or character of the distortions and it is, therefore, unlikely that changes in Phase Four will be even in part adjusted for their supposed impact.

The Government's real worry is quite different. The low levels of profitability and much impaired liquidity which have at least in part been caused by price controls seem likely to threaten investment in 1975.

Some compensating incentives to investment are needed to restore capital spending to what are deemed to be adequate levels.

The two main changes expected are designed to meet this problem. The first is the reduction of the productivity deduction, the subject of the most bitter, prolonged and determined criticism.

The productivity deduction prevents companies from pass-

ing on in prices all of the increase in costs caused by higher wages. The reasoning behind it is that companies would normally accomplish some productivity advance and that, therefore, it would be unduly generous to allow companies to raise prices by 10 per cent if wages rose by 10 per cent.

This is all right if productivity is rising quickly, as in the boom year of 1973. But it is extremely harmful in the recession conditions of 1974 when productivity is stagnant or, in some industries, even declining.

The second big change will probably be the inclusion of special provisions for companies which are increasing their investment.

The CBI is thought to favour the inclusion of a fraction of investment expenditure in allowable costs. This avoids the problem of definition which always arises when new investment has to be separated from old investment or the rates of return on one factory have to be compared with the rates of return on another.

The Government may or may not agree. But, if it were to approve the CBI idea, a further infringement of industry's freedom would have taken place.

Investment decisions, as well as pricing decisions, are being scrutinized by an official authority, still less scope remains for the individual manager to make up his own mind.

Special investment incentives like this would also discriminate against low growth, low investment industries.

Tim Congdon

# Bidding for a change of attitude on meat marketing

Ever since control of FMC, now Britain's largest fresh meat wholesaler, first passed from the members of The NFU Development Trust, when shares were offered to the public to make at FMC will do nothing whatsoever to ease the plight of livestock producers in the short term. For that they must rely upon government support or intervention.

If the bid is successful, farmers are unlikely to see much benefit within the next five years. Even then it will be negligible in the middleman, partly because the middleman's gains in this industry are too small for either side to benefit significantly from their elimination, and partly because FMC's estimated 14 per cent share of the United Kingdom market for fresh beef, and 12 per cent for lamb, leaves it in no position to pay over the odds for its purchases without running into large commercial problems.

It appears that the Development Trust's hopes of achieving its objectives by persuasion have received a boost on the resignation of Sir John Stratton from the chairmanship last year. But his successor, Anson Payne, although at first sight a neutral appointee as the former civil servant who helped to introduce the pig stabilization scheme, has proved to be no more amenable to the Development Trust's arguments.

Attempts to tackle the problem through the replacement, over a period, of board members by NFU appointees, would have involved the abandonment of several executives whose expertise in the Development Trust was highly valued. It has in fact taken the only step available to bring the impasse to an end.

This being the case the price which it has offered looks too low. Even on purely commercial grounds a bid capitalizing FMC at £5.5m, as against last year's £3.2m, and a 12 per cent, never-generous, although FMC's profits trend is, as the board has previously admitted, liable to sudden and dramatic change.

The Development Trust,

inevitably followed by the commercial elimination of yet another major meat wholesaler.

The Development Trust accepts, however, that the changes which it proposes to make at FMC will do nothing whatsoever to ease the plight of livestock producers in the short term. For that they must rely upon government support or intervention.

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The Development Trust,

however, says that it not only could but would run FMC on a commercial footing, making sufficient profit to service the borrowings necessary to fund the acquisition and to provide finance for future expansion. But this is incidental to the principal object of the bid, which is to provide the Development Trust with an opportunity to implement its own ideas on the future of the United Kingdom livestock industry.

At the moment the vast majority of cattle and sheep in this country are produced on an ad hoc basis, and are sent for slaughter when the state of the market or the farmer's own cash flow position dictates a sale. The Development Trust wants to extend to standardization of the livestock industry the system of production and sale according to long-term contracts which is already widespread amongst pig producers.

Figs lend themselves a good deal more readily to standardization by weight and quality in effect to factory farming—than do cattle and sheep. The Development Trust, however, reckons that over a period of years it will be possible to iron out the problems and that the

introduction of longer-term contracts will smooth out the worst effects of excesses in supply and demand.

On the beneficial effects of an attempt to introduce longer term contracts the board of FMC will pass little comment. But other wholesalers regard the idea with profound cynicism, expecting on the strength of past experience—dishonoured contracts when the price is not fixed, and bankruptcies when it is. There have, however, been one or two instances of successful contract purchasing by wholesalers—for example, by the farmers' co-operative, North Devon Meat, and the NFU Development Trust claims that it is only the "ultra-conservative" character of the trade which prevents the system from spreading.

The arguments of the FMC board, that the group has successfully weathered extremely difficult conditions in the home meat market before, has to be seen in the context of its reluctance to commit itself to anything more than reasonable optimism about prospects beyond the current year—during the remainder of which it expects

"satisfactory" trading conditions.

On the other hand, the forecast increase in the dividend from just over 13 to 30 per cent gross is backed up by good historic cover and a balance sheet which shows no undue strain on liquidity. And while the prospective yield of 12.9 per cent, at the bid price, is not exciting enough to prevent a reduction in the shares should the bid be withdrawn, there is little immediate likelihood of their declining to the level at which they were before the bid was launched.

Moreover, there is some justice in the group's appeal to its asset backing, although it is, paradoxically, an appeal which could only be fully substantiated in a break-up situation. Shareholders can reasonably expect a price for the benefits, other than the purely commercial ones, which The NFU Development Trust expects to derive from full control of FMC.

First closing date for the NFU bid is next Wednesday; but no one is expecting that the saga will have been brought to an end by then.

Adrienne Gleeson

# TOTAL Compagnie Française des Pétroles

INTERIM REPORT The unaudited group results for the six months to 30th June are as follows—

	(In millions of francs)	Six months to June 1973	Six months to June 1974
Net turnover		7,999.4	19,540.7
Less: cost of crude, products sold and services		5,727.2	10,985.4
Group operating profit		2,272.2	8,555.3
Add: financial income		104.5	240.9
Less: financial charges		215.2	371.8
Less: amortization and provisions profits and losses (exceptional and/or relating to previous years)		27.0	110.7
Income before taxes		1,806.7	7,125.9
Less: taxes paid to various governments and share of the French State in excess profit		1,285.7	5,909.9
Income after taxes		321.0	1,216.0
Less: minority interests		31.8	257.0
Net income—CFP share		289.2	959.0
Cash flow			
Net income		321.0	1,216.0
Amortization and provisions		581.8	1,409.2
		902.8	2,625.2

The evaluation of the Group's inventories on a weighted average cost price basis and the adjustments of product retail prices made after the first half of 1974 crude oil price increases reflected exceptional increases in cash flow and income. However, not taking into account an estimated 1,450 million francs increase, cash flow would be lowered to 1,175.2 million francs. Similarly, not considering an estimated 980 million francs increase, net income would be lowered to 256 million francs, including 339 million francs (CFP's share) and 83 million francs (minority interests).

On the other hand, the increase in inventory value between the 31.12.1973 and the 30.6.1974 can be estimated, on a constant volume basis, at 2,750 million francs. Therefore, reconstituting inventories at new price level, which is mandatory for both operating and legal reasons, has not only absorbed aggregate exceptional profits made on inventories, but also forces the Group to resort to credit. Actually, these profits did not make up amounts available for financing operating investments or increasing dividend distribution.

These results reflect the inadequate level of authorized product retail prices as compared to actual costs. It should be noted that this gap was worsened when OPEC decided, during its last meeting in Vienna, to further increase crude oil prices.

Crude Oil Resources  
Crude oil volume put at the Group's disposal for the first half of the year amounted to 40.9 million metric tons, compared to 38.2 million metric tons for the 1973 corresponding period.

Turnover  
The net turnover for the first half of 1974 reached 19,540.7 million francs (10,336.8 in France and 9,203.9 abroad) compared to 7,999.4 million francs for the same period in 1973, (a 144% increase). This progression is due mainly to substantial increases in crude oil price rates which occurred since October 1973.

Compensation in Respect of Nationalisation  
Compensation received or to be received in respect of nationalisation or participation agreements implemented in the Middle East producing States were kept in clearing accounts and are not reflected in the results of the first half of 1974.

Exchange Fluctuation  
The conversion into francs of foreign currency items in CFP's and its affiliates' accounts was made uniformly on the basis of 30 June rates.

Consequently, a positive book exchange difference of about 37 million francs was entered in the first half of 1974 consolidated results.

# Business Diary: The Dorchester McAlpines • Jensen's yen

Barstow, chairman of Development Securities Limited, earlier this year reporting regrettable erosion of the company's profits by increases in heads and maintenance costs. These exceeded the gross he earned, while a costly refurbishing programme was in effect the results of current year as well. But it is at hand, and it springs from the very industry that is driving this drain on the company's revenues—construction.

There are three McAlpines on the board of Development Securities, all of them perhaps to frame these plans. They are Sir Robert, chairman of the company, Sir Robin, chairman of the Dorchester, Sir Robert McAlpine and Sir Malcolm Hugh, also a director of the construction company.

Now, in Harrogate yesterday, from the Dorchester's splendid representative of her McAlpine company was engaged on the damage done by their sloppy eating habits—and came up with an idea that any big hotel with a well-stocked kitchen should consider packed meals for construction workers.

Malcolm Evans, chief sales manager to the Sir Alfred McAlpine group (northern), yesterday told the Institution Industrial Safety Officers conference, at Harrogate, that the problem was not so great on other sites, but on smaller or extended projects it would be beneficial to have something like an army mess.

Evans added that many



Bryan Toye, chairman of Toye & Company, military regalia makers since 1885, who now becomes chairman of E. Dent & Company, official chronometer makers to the Queen Victoria and the builders of Big Ben—the bigger Ben on the left, that is. The smaller big Ben is a three-foot scale model made by Jack Inglis of Wimbledon.

workers exist on sandwiches, tea and beer every day instead of a balanced diet. When men work outside in bad weather and do not eat properly they become much more susceptible to illness.

Medical examinations had revealed that cold weather, inadequate clothing and poor food turned healthy young men into old men at 50.

Evans gave a warning that unless some radical measures are taken more than 1,000 men will have been killed in the construction industry by the time this conference is held in five years.

Packed meals from the Dor-

Jensen Motors, is trying to put more steam into Jensen sales in Japan.

Graves was one of the motor industry's first executives to draw attention to the difficulties of selling cars there. More than two years ago he campaigned for the then Department of Trade and Industry to investigate the many hidden obstacles facing European cars.

He got a sympathetic hearing at the time from the department and little else.

Graves told Business Diary that he was delighted by the recent Turin Motor Show speech of Sir Raymond Brookes, president of the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders. Sir Raymond, who is also chairman of Guest Keen & Nottelmann, criticized the one-sided attitude which enabled the Japanese to sell large numbers of cars overseas while protecting their home market with "fine print" restrictions.

Now Graves hopes the SMMT will consist all member companies and mount a campaign to force the Japanese to open up their market.

Shipyard line  
Entertainer Roy Castle won a big laugh during his cabaret act at the biennial dinner of the Shipbuilders' and Repairers' National Association in London this week.

Pumping up a set of bagpipes, Castle observed that the air therein should now be enough to last Tony Benn for a fortnight.

The joke apart, the official SRNA line is that the industry will seek to make public ownership work, and delegates due to

meet Benn next week are approaching this confrontation with surprising equanimity.

The dinner, for example, is usually an informal affair, and whether the shipbuilders have either heard or made enough speeches in months past or are saving themselves for efforts to come, there was little speechifying on this occasion.

This is traditionally the event to mark the swansong of the retiring SRNA president, in this case Tom McIver, chairman of Swan Hunter Group (£13.6m in grants since 1965), who was handing over to Ross Belch, managing director of Scott Lithgow (£9.4m in loans and grants).

McIver accordingly confined himself to a few words of welcome to the guest of honour, Lord Beswick, Minister of State for Industry, who was reciprocatingly brief in reply.

Benn, the architect of the shipbuilders' and repairers' future, was not present, and although there were no speeches in which he and his works might figure, both were staples of the table talk.

So was the question of who was to be the chairman (shipmen do not like the word chief executive) of Benn's proposed National Shipbuilding Corporation, the choice of whom is vital to the industry's success.

Among the names to have so far cropped up are those of Danny McGarvey, the Boiler-makers' Society leader, and of Graham Day, the Canadian brought in to rescue Cammell Laird from sinking. But that particular launching is some time off.

## Sales drive

Dick Graves, the former Rolls-Royce sales executive who is now marketing director of

INSTITUTE OF DIRECTORS

# Creation of more abundant wealth only way to raise living standards

There is no problem facing this country today that cannot be solved by sound policies and firm leadership. Sound leadership in politics, in the trade unions and in the business world.

We are spending more than we are earning; we are living beyond our means, and if we continue to do so we shall finish up like every profligate—in the bankruptcy courts. But as nations cannot go bankrupt by the very nature of their existence, instead of bankruptcy you have inflation with currency becoming virtually valueless, and then a situation which can only be corrected by the most vicious and painful cures.

It is for the leaders in business, in the trade unions and in politics to make clear that the solution to our problems lies entirely in our own hands. If we go down it will be our own fault. We shall have asked for it. But there is no need to go down.

This country, again I repeat, given the right policies and sound leadership, could be within a few years the most prosperous country in Western Europe.

Of course, we will have hiccups in the economy, but over the next 100 years the line of demand will move steadily up. The nations that will go down and fail are the nations that

Lord Robens  
Chairman of Vickers

think that they can live without earning. The nations that will fail will be those whose citizens think that the government of the day has a bottomless purse from which they can provide goodies for all for ever, without the purse being filled.

We are psychological sufferers from our industrial past. The words "wealth" and "profits" ring in the ears of so many people as an obscenity. Some people do not seem to recognize that it is the creation of wealth that enables people to be prosperous and that it is the creation of wealth that enables a nation whose desire is for what is called "social justice" to provide for those who are not able to provide for themselves.

The only way out of the problems that we now face is the creation of an even greater abundance of wealth in order to pay the higher commodity prices and permit at the same time an ever increasing standard of living.

It follows, as surely as the night follows day, that any interruption to the creation of wealth is the most damaging and disastrous thing that can happen to this country.

Every single strike that takes place makes the economic plight of the country worse. Strikes are self-inflicted wounds from which the nation will slowly bleed to death.

It seems inconceivable that this nation, that led the world for over 100 years, should today be crawling around making excuses for the situation in which we find ourselves, instead of facing the facts that we are not producing to time, or to standards, because of our very bad industrial relations.

Walking tall will not give anybody in this nation backache, but failure to perform is going to give a lot of people backache.

Leadership consists of telling the truth, however unpleasant and brutal it may be. Leadership consists of identifying the problems and expressing them with simplicity and clarity.

Leadership consists of producing solutions to the problems and, whatever may be the difficulties facing, the carrying out of those solutions must never be dodged.

Leadership does not consist of pretending that somehow or another if you take something



Lord Robens speaking at yesterday's conference.

away from those that have it, and give it away to those who haven't that this is a permanent solution to our problems.

Leadership means standing up to the bully boys whether they are in management, trade union, politics or anywhere else. Leadership demands men of honesty, integrity and who are fearless and courageous.

Leadership does not consist of the mean compromise of so many words that contain double meanings.

Leadership, above all, consists of telling the truth, unpalatable though it may be. It is better to go down with the truth on one's lips, than to rise high by innuendo, and double talk.

# Nation must aim at a higher growth rate and better industrial relations

Trade unionists, like other people, look at what is happening abroad. What they see appeals to them—living standards rising much more rapidly there than in this country.

The basic decision which as a nation we have got to make is whether we want faster economic expansion and higher living standards, or whether we prefer a relatively quiet existence.

My view—and it is the view of most of the people that I represent—is that our rate of expansion is and has, for too long, been far too low, and that we should collectively address ourselves to improving it substantially.

The possession of material goods—and particularly durable consumer goods—is a blessing, not a social curse. They open up to people—the motor car is a particular case in point—a whole range of new experiences, a whole spectrum of choice. I have little patience with those middle-class intellectuals who, while themselves enjoying the possession of these goods, preach alarmist sermons on the deterioration of the physical and cultural environment which they claim will inevitably result from the proliferation of motor cars, transistor sets, semi-detached houses, colour TVs.

Mr Len Murray  
General Secretary of the TUC

I am not for the moment saying that we can ignore our physical or cultural environment.

The fact is that working-class people want better living standards. They aspire in particular to the ownership of consumer durables, are acquiring them and intend to go on acquiring more. Many of them are in fact frustrated in their ambitions by the incapacity of the British economic system to deliver the goods.

You may raise your hands in horror and talk about inflation, but the moral of that is that we—and particularly you—have got to stop concentrating on scaling down the money side of the equation and address ourselves—and particularly yourselves—to increasing the available goods. That means creating more productive capacity and using it more effectively, and it means using manpower more effectively.

The main key to high investment itself is steady growth and an assurance of demand.

But if investment is to have maximum effectiveness, if we are not to waste resources, it is

plain common sense for companies to know, in broad terms, what others—suppliers and customers—are doing. This I take to be one of the main purposes of the proposed planning agreements.

It is obviously desirable in my view that union representatives should be involved in investment decisions, not only so that they can offer advice based on their own experience but, perhaps more importantly, so that they can more effectively win the agreement of those they represent to consequential changes that may be necessary in, for example, manning arrangements.

It is quite wrong to think of British workers as being unwilling to change, static, immobile. The record shows that this is quite untrue.

Change itself is bound to be disturbing, it is bound to bring arguments. It is hardly a matter for surprise that employees should not always see eye to eye with employers when it comes to deciding who gets what proportion of the product.

There are two sides to industry, with different interests, and it does not help to try to camou-

On this page are extracts from some of the speeches at the annual conference of the Institute of Directors held in London yesterday. The speakers included Sir Derek Pritchard, president of the institute; Lord Robens, chairman of Vickers; Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC; M. Michel Jobert, the former French Foreign Minister; Mrs Margaret Thatcher, shadow Environment Secretary; Mr Alastair Cooke, the author, journalist and broadcaster; and Sir Richard Powell, the institute's director-general.

flage that fact. I am not for a moment saying that there are no areas in which we cannot find common agreement. Of course there are—notably in increasing productivity and profitability—but when it comes to sharing out the results then interests do differ.

In practice the overwhelming majority of those arguments are settled peacefully: strikes are very much the exception, not the rule. It is plain to me, sense from everybody's point of view to reduce days lost from industrial disputes.

Part of the solution lies in establishing more sensible procedures in industry. My aim must always be to prevent arguments from escalating into disputes.

We want to see major decisions made by mutual agreement, instead of imposing them on people who, because they resent being imposed upon, resist change.

# State control no cure for our economic ills

Mrs Margaret Thatcher  
Shadow Environment Secretary

We face demands for the "restructuring of industry"—a phrase we have heard many times during the recent debates in Parliament. The present difficulties in which many companies find themselves are undoubtedly being used by left-wing groups to justify a further measure of state control.

Little attempt is made to analyse either the cause of the problems or to consider the administrative difficulties at the government end if ever-increasing duties and decisions are formally placed on ministers.

First, in a period of rising raw material costs, rising wages and salaries, and rising overheads, companies under the present price code have not been able to recover enough in prices to finance their requirements.

Second, our system of accounting was devised for times when the value of money was relatively stable. When raw material costs are rising, the increased cost of replacing stock used up in production is not taken into account in calculating profits for tax purposes. The company is therefore pay-

ing tax on stock appreciation, tax which it sometimes cannot fund.

Further, for tax purposes depreciation is allowed only on the historic cost of machinery.

Last year industry paid £2,245m in corporation tax. This year the estimate is £3,265m. There have been various comments in Parliament that industry is asking for money. The reality is that if the Government had not taken so much out, it would not need to put so much back in.

The fact is that we owe in large measure the income and both individual and collective prosperity since the war to the private enterprise system.

And yet, it has come under constant political attack. Our political opponents, whether they are in government or opposition, are asking for more state control, and the case for more state control, while we have too often assumed the case for private enterprise instead of arguing it.

The economic wellbeing and standard of living of the country depend largely on the performance of the private sector.

I hope that within the coming few years, with or without legislation, companies will do everything possible to ensure that employees at every level themselves a part of the company, and identify themselves with its success.

Some companies have already made excellent progress in this direction, not because they have been pushed by politicians but because of their own conviction of the value of the company, its people, and therefore for the country.

# Productivity and the will to work can beat inflation

Sir Derek Pritchard  
President of the Institute

What Britain needs most of all now is for government, management and the unions to hammer out a policy that would build a new Britain based on the one thing that can really beat inflation—not by increased taxation, not by decreased profits, not by decreased wages, but by increased productivity.

It is productivity, the will to work, and to take the responsibility for what one does, that can beat inflation quicker than anything else.

I now come to my message to the Chancellor: How can we obtain the productivity we need for to beat inflation? One of the major causes of Britain's apathy about our financial and economic situation—virtually bottom of the European league in terms of productivity—is lack of incentive.

I am talking both about industry and about people because it is people who make industry successful or unsuccessful. Industry must be allowed to earn and retain genuine profits.

This is the only way industry can have the cash to plough back into investment in the company for the future benefit of the country, its workers and its shareholders.

Any worker, be he director, white or blue collar, must be enabled to retain a sufficient proportion of his earnings to make it worthwhile to work overtime; to worry; to carry the responsibility.

Productivity is the key to the beating of inflation and incentive—cash incentive for everyone—is the key to productivity.

We need common sense not slogans; sensible profits not more money due to government responsibility and doing a good job and, above all, a sense of realism that inflation is the common enemy of every one of us and we can only beat it if we shoulder to shoulder together.

# Five simple truths for the men in Whitehall

Sir Richard Powell  
Director-General of the Institute

I think I am perhaps entitled to give those in Whitehall who make the rules my own list of "musts" if we are to ensure Britain's prosperity as an industrial nation. And who can deny these five simple truths?

One: Let the man half-way up the ladder of success press his way upward unimpeded by exorbitant tax demands. And let the man already at the top hang on to a bit more of what he earns. Let it be realized that a too fierce rate of taxation is counter-productive—no man will work to his utmost unless he is offered some sort of carrot.

Two: And it's an old saw—no one, not even the Russians, has yet succeeded in making the rich poor. The socialists seem to forget that you've got to create wealth before you can distribute it and the only way to create

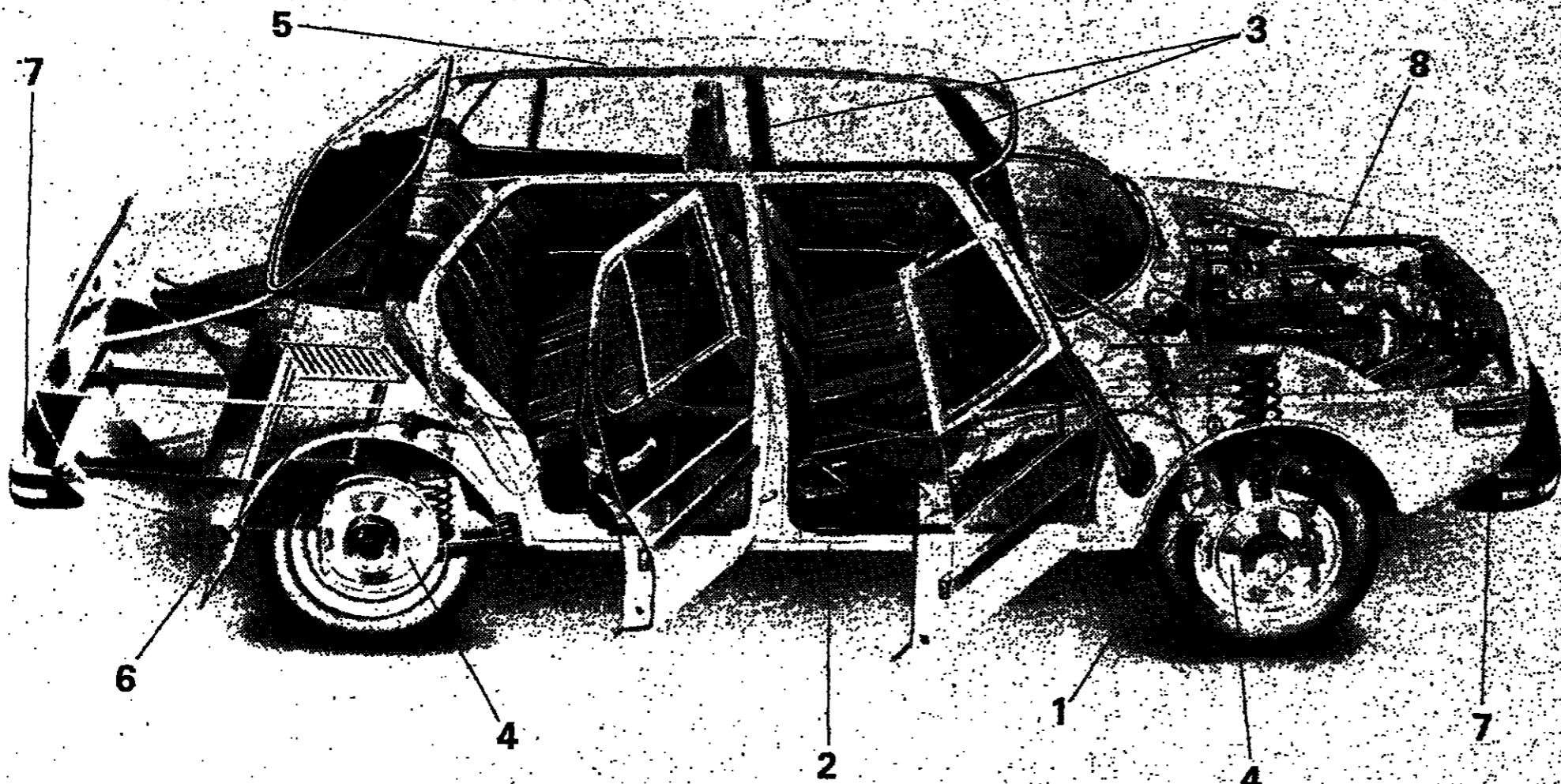
the stuff is to let free enterprise run free.

Three: Freedom is not only political. It is also, and essentially, economic. It rests now, it always has and it always will, on the private ownership of property and business throughout the world.

Four: The concept of free enterprise has changed with a changing world. Today, free enterprise means business that is abreast of the new management techniques; that awakes to the discoveries of science; that rewards talent and inventiveness and brains, regardless of background and social standing; and is deeply aware of its duty to the community as well as to its shareholders and its employees.

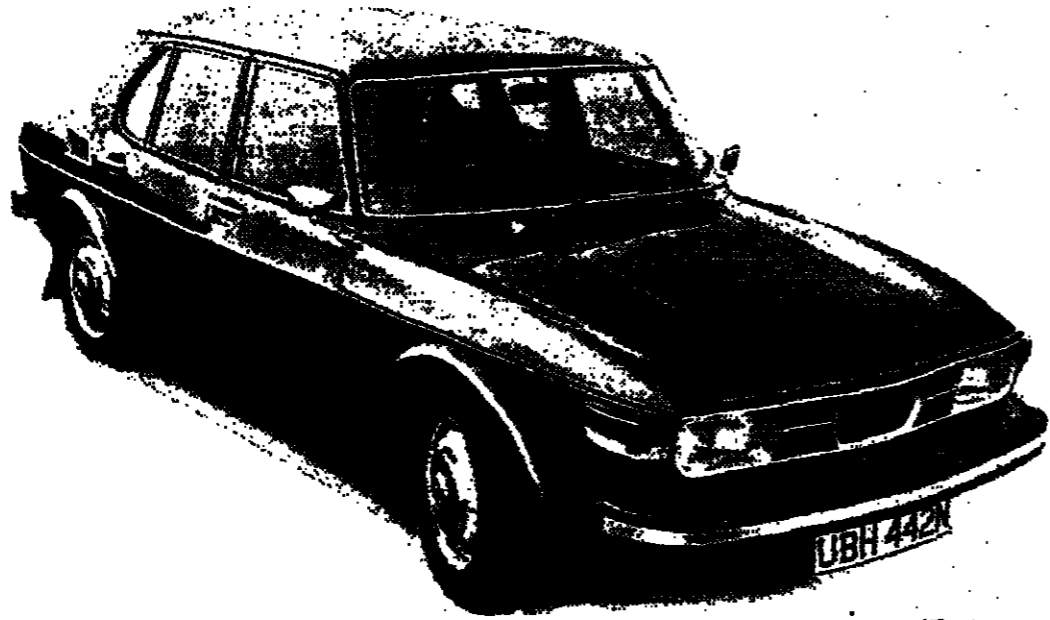
And fifth: That where there's free enterprise, there's fair and honest competition—competition that keeps quality up and prices down—unlike a good many of our nationalized concerns—their losses a burden on us all, where the quality of the services they offer seems to go down and down, and the prices they charge us for them seem to go up and up with almost equal rapidity.

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Anthony Martin, Financial Times, June 1, 1974



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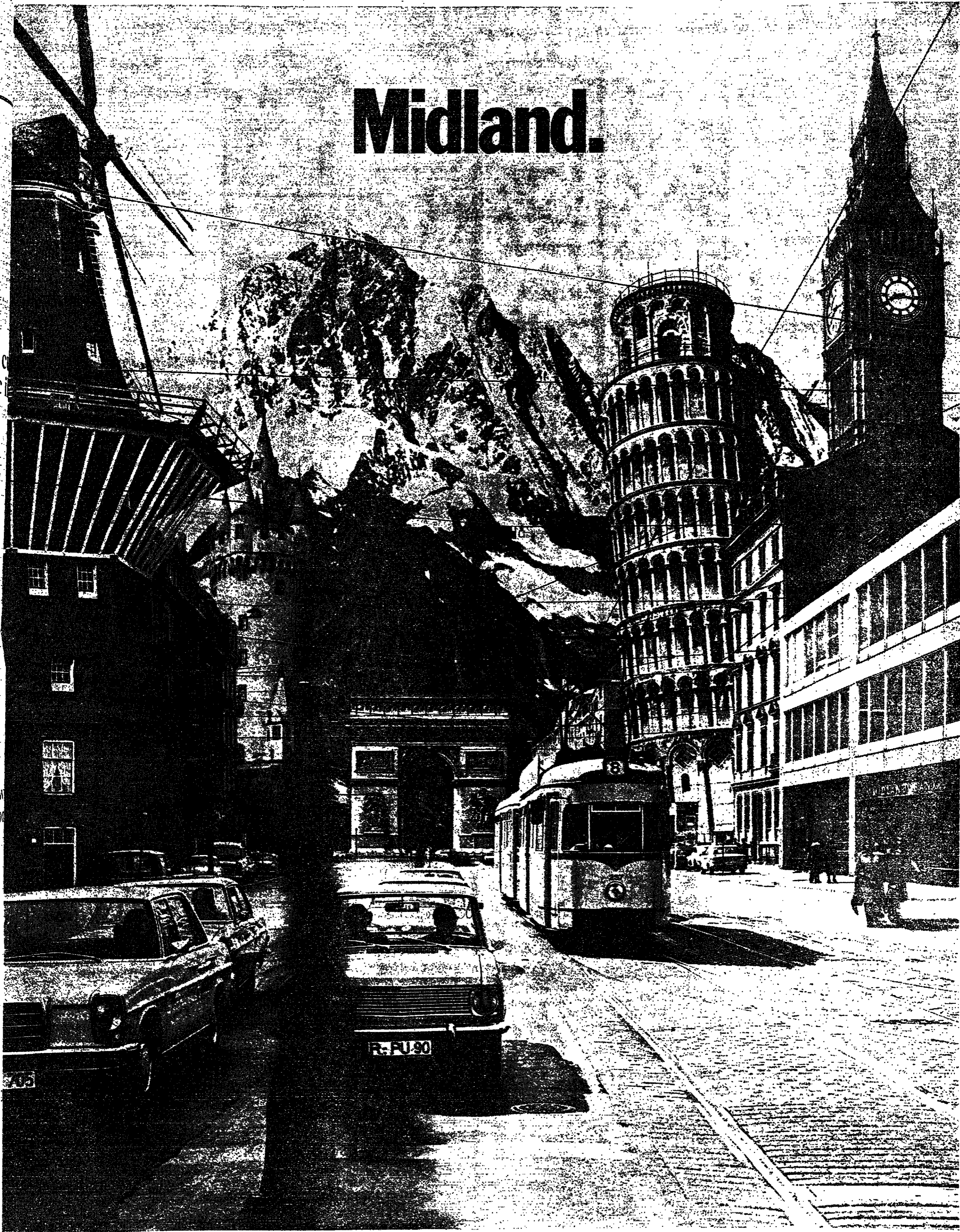
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International (EBIC), a group of 7 of the great banks of Europe with almost 9,000 branches.

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**Midland Bank**  
International Division

FINANCIAL NEWS

Wolseley-Hughes slide from crest as snags persist to the end

By Ashley Druker
The spread of factors harassing Wolseley-Hughes at mid-way, when profits went into reverse from £2.3m to £1.7m, appear to have held the upper hand through the full year.

crisis—causing costs to rise faster than selling prices—resulted in a midway decline.
The preceding year, of course, was exceptional in that not only was there a high level of activity in new housing and home improvement, but also an inflow to the group of the pre-VAT spending spree, apart from element of buying on fears of inflationary cost increases.

dropped from £2.7m to £1.58m, while earnings a share were flattened to 14.36p, compared with 23.21p. The dividend however rises from 5.77p to 6.05p.
As for coping with the challenges in the year ahead, "excellent" relations exist with the banks, and credit facilities available for continued development in the future.

C. H. Bailey set to fight takeover of repair yard

In giving an unaudited estimate that profits last term rose from £925,000 to £1.15m pre-tax, Mr Christopher Bailey, chairman of C. H. Bailey, said the company would "fight all the way" government plans to nationalize Bristol Channel Ship Repairs.

United City Merchants climb to peak £1.8m

By David Mott
Faced with the difficult general economic situation and inflation United City Merchants continued its growth last term even though as usual the second half was considerably slower. The return was a record £1.82m net pre-tax, a growth of 30 per cent.

Concentric recovery hangs fire
By Tony May
With the second half producing only £405,000, instead of the £500,000 hoped for by the board, at half time, Concentric has dropped back from last year's record pre-tax profit of £1,066,000 to £613,500—about £708,000 had been expected. Mr D. Dodd, the chairman comments that the second-half figure is as good as it is thanks to the metals and plastics divisions. The engineering side did indeed rise from an adjusted 1.25p to 1.34p.



Mr D. Dodd, chairman of Concentric; metals and plastics divisions help to cushion effects of difficult year.

Stock markets Rights issue speculation upsets the leaders

A combination of factors, ranging from the international to internal market scenes, undermined share prices yesterday. Major stocks slid lower from the opening of the market, with the industrial sections under particular pressure.

at Shell were disclosed as soon as the market opened. The shares initially improved to 162p but second thoughts then set in, with the margin progress upset by a net ip off at 157p. Other oil shares were additionally unsettled by reports that Kuwait intended to continue pressing for higher oil prices. BP traded nervously at 272p.

confidence bruised by strike the group's factories. At 1 Hoover "A" shares lost a ther 5p.
Losses of a few pence, a common throughout the industrial sections. Courta (62p), Dunlop Hldgs (3 GKN (143p), Tube Invest (155p) and Hawker Sid (178p) all closed lower. B ing and construction is turned down on Mr He apparent hint of impending strains on central and government spending. Cement (86p), Tarmac ( and Tunnel Cement (67p) all without supporters.

Equity turnover on Novem was £58m (17,291 bargs Active stocks yesterday a ing to Exchange Telug were ICI, Boots, Burnab O Universal Surs "A", Shell, Goldfields, Australian E "A", Bats, Marks & Sp and Slater Walker Securiti

But a final blow came in the form of persistent rumours during the late afternoon that another major company was about to follow. Commercial Union by raising money in the market by way of a rights issue. The rumours remained firmly placed in the land of conjecture, and some sources pointed out that any such move was unlikely ahead of Budget Day. The success of the Commercial Union rights—the shares become fully paid on Monday and were quoted yesterday at 77p, a premium of 17p on the subscription price—undoubtedly sparked off the rumours.

However, the market gossip was strong enough to lower shares in ICI to a new low of 145p, later 146p, a net 5p off. Burnab Oil, another candidate, was already easier after Shell's figures, and closed 6p off at 140p. Toys R Us, another favourite for the rumour mongers, slipped by 2p to 115p, and Grand Metropolitan at 29p shed ip.

Results for the third quarter
VOLVO QUOTATION
Share prices are to be listed in Düsseldorf, Frankfurt and Hamburg.

Further broki partnerships reorganized
The latest crop of dis partnerships and stock mergers includes the spl up of Stock & Orme. Mes Orme and W. Haslam w withdrawing from the pa ship and setting up as O Co. Trading will start und name from December 9, to consent from the C of the Stock Exchange, while the remaining pa will continue business und name Stock & Co.

Mr Blake leaves CSG

SGB has acquired a stake of 56.5 per cent in Contractors Services Group and is to offer £250,000 for the balance. This price values CS at £2.25m. Mr D. Blake, chairman of CS, has resigned from the board following SGB's purchase of his holding and has waived a second interim dividend. The CSG board, advised by London & Yorkshire Trust, consider the offer to be fair and reasonable

Mr Blake leaves CSG

and recommend shareholders to accept. SGB's advisers Kleinwort Benson have arranged a medium-term loan to finance the purchase.
As chief executive of Brown Brothers & Albany Mr Blake came under fire earlier this year from another member of the board for the price of more than 66m paid for a 25 per cent stake in Henlys.

Mr Blake leaves CSG

net current assets declined last year from £902,000 to £569,000, with the bank overdraft up from £23,000 to £376,000 and creditors from £10,000 to £14,000. Debtors at the same time rose from £275,000 to £594,000 and stock from £95,000 to £87,000.

Lyndale hots up opening pace

Things were bounding along at Lyndale Engineering after six months when profits already exceeded fourfold the comparable longer period. This situation worked through to June 30 with pre-tax profits for the year surging almost fivefold from £101,000 to £485,000. Turnover advanced from £2.07m to £3.5m.

Business appointments Mr Klijnstra's successor on Unilever boards

Mr G. D. A. Klijnstra is to retire as chairman of Unilever NV and as vice-chairman of Unilever Ltd. He will also retire from both boards. His successor is Mr H. F. van der Horst.

Chairmen report Margins cut at Parker Timber

Trading for the first five months of the year at Parker Timber has been at an increased level of turnover but at reduced margins. Mr K. Whitby writes.

LMS rebound awaits 1975-76

Hopes of a return to full profitability in 1975-76 were held out to shareholders of London & Merchant Securities yesterday by Sir Max Rayne, chairman. Last year, pre-tax profits rose from £6.46m to £5.25m and per-share earnings from 2.5p to 0.95p.

Share bargains sought by Hill Samuel Trust

Hill Samuel Unit Trust intends to take advantage of its cash reserves to buy shares at levels "which have not been seen for many years".

Problems continue for Selebi Pikwe

Botswana RST's 85 per cent owned Selebi-Pikwe nickel and copper project is continuing to meet severe and expensive technical problems. The costs are being borne by the major shareholders, Amax, Anglo American and Charter Consolidated and their associates.

Sungei Besi earns and pays more

Sungei Besi Mines, the Selangor tin producer, has seen its net profits for the six months to end September soar from £104,000 to £360,000. And shareholders will receive the maximum permissible increase in dividends with a payment of 3.16p gross (2.14p).

Aurora Holdings

The large increases in the cost of materials and supply difficulties, have led to large rises in stocks and debtors at Aurora Holdings (formerly Aurora Gear & Engineering) in spite of stringent management controls.

MY Dart over £1m pre-tax

Another buoyant return comes from MY Dart, as for a fourth successive year there are record profits.

Two takeover offers for Craig Tea

Two takeover offers have been received by Craig Tea Estates, whose quotation was cancelled in 1972. One of the offers may be recommended and shareholders are strongly advised by the board to ignore the other.

Brit-Borneo Petrol

An interim payment up from 2.31p to 2.59p and profits before tax increased by £95,000 to £358,000 are reported by British-Borneo Petroleum Syndicate.

M. Cotts Transport

Another record year has been enjoyed by the Mitchell Cotts Transport company, a 75 per cent controlled subsidiary of Mitchell Cotts Group. Pre-tax profits have risen from £727,000 to £801,000, while net profits up from £430,000 to £517,500, the dividend is being increased from 3.62p to 3.82p. Earnings a share come out at 7.72p, against 6.72p.

Inland Revenue joins speedy mail service

Inland Revenue has signed a deal with the Post Office which will ensure rapid delivery of mail between its central postal centre at Kew, London, and selected regional revenue offices. The contract, at an undisclosed six-figure sum, is the largest ever secured by Data-post, the PO's high speed service for business customers.

Whiteley upsurge

With the proviso that outside factors of the international economic scene could greatly influence the second-half, all seems set fair for another record year at B. S. & W. Whiteley. This York-shire-based maker of electrical insulating pre-board, reports half-time pre-tax profits much more than doubled from £97,000 to £247,000 and the "net" increased from £46,000 to £119,000. The "attributable" moved from £46,000 to £103,000, while the interim dividend is up from 0.37p to 0.74p.

Macallan-Glenlivet

After reporting a peak £458,000 pre-tax a month ago, Macallan-Glenlivet, malt whisky distillers, expects 1974-75 to be one of high production. But Mr G. C. Harbinson, chairman, gives a warning in his annual statement that the financial progress which should result from this will probably be restricted by the reduction in percentage profit margins.

RMP profits double

Pre-tax profits of Rand Mines Properties virtually doubled last year—from £1.73m to £3.43m—while earnings advanced from 13c to 26.1c a share. Turnover rose from £10.6m to £25.8m thanks largely to the higher gold price and to the acquisition of the Thesen timber business.

ABERCORN GEN INV

Shareholders of ABERCORN GEN INV received a dividend of £276,000 (£261,000). Earnings 4.26p (6.54p) a share.

Rand Selection final dividend

Rand Selection is paying a final dividend of 1s 6d a share compared with the forecast of 37c made at the time of the merger with Schlesinger Insurance and Institutional Holdings. Pre-tax profits of the South African finance group increased from £36.5m to £42.4m.

House of Sears loss

Heavy losses in the second half of its last term to June 30 plunged House of Sears into a deficit of £166,000 pre-tax. The

JAS WALKER GOLDSMITH

A record Christmas is seen and board is optimistic about 1975.

Notes

1. Corporation Tax has been calculated at 52% for the current half year, but at the average rate for the last financial year in respect of the comparative half year period in 1973.
2. The results for the first 28 weeks in 1973 have been amended to include those relating to subsidiaries acquired during that period.

Notes

In view of the deteriorating economic conditions at the beginning of the year, the Board decided that the maintenance of a good liquidity position was of primary importance.

Notes

In pursuance of this policy, a stock reduction programme was initiated which involved heavy markdowns and therefore inevitably had an adverse effect on the profits for the first half year. However, as a result of its implementation and of other steps taken to improve liquidity, the group has ample resources available to meet its foreseeable requirements.

Notes

The sale and leaseback of the Company's headquarters building at 1/2 Welbeck Street, for over £6 m, has already been announced and further negotiations are being pursued with a view to reducing still further the Company's short term indebtedness.

Notes

In recent weeks the benefits of a major cost reduction programme have begun to be apparent. Moreover, trading results have shown an improvement and satisfactory sales are now being achieved by the Stores where major rebuilding and refurbishment schemes have been completed, such as Debenhams (previously Marshall & Snelgrove) in Oxford Street and at Plymouth, Southampton, Bournemouth and Oxford.

Notes

It is not practicable in current conditions to make a reliable forecast of the results of the Company's trading for the full financial year, but in the light of all the information which is at present available to them, the Directors have, as stated above, decided to maintain the interim dividend at 8 1/2%.

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Debenhams Limited Interim Statement
The profit of the Group attributable to Ordinary Shareholders was £11,000 for the 28 weeks to 17th August, 1974, compared with £2,543,000 for the comparable period in 1973. The Directors have declared an interim dividend of 1.424p per share (amounting to £1,137,077) payable on 2nd January, 1975 to Shareholders on the Register on 22nd November, 1974. This dividend, with the related tax credit represents a gross dividend of 2.125p per share, or 8 1/2%, equivalent to the two interim dividends paid in 1973.



FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

December sugar drops £50.50 a ton

Technical reaction saw sugar prices... December sugar drops £50.50 a ton

Commodities

Market—Cash, 212.0-213.5p; three months... Commodities

was still a reluctance to the market which was... Commodities

December also attracted... Commodities

Further... Commodities

Bank Base Rates

Table of bank base rates for various banks including Barclays Bank, Lloyds Bank, etc.

TANGANYIKA SECTIONS LIMITED

NOTICE TO HOLDERS... TANGANYIKA SECTIONS LIMITED

WALL STREET

New York, Nov. 7.—Wall Street prices moved moderately higher... WALL STREET

NY silver up limit

New York, Nov. 6.—COMEX SILVER... NY silver up limit

ES BUSINESS

ES BUSINESS... ES BUSINESS

ES BUSINESS

ES BUSINESS... ES BUSINESS

Japanese copper smelters' plea for government aid

Tokyo, Nov. 7.—Japanese copper smelters are urging the government... Japanese copper smelters' plea for government aid

Wall Street

New York, Nov. 7.—Wall Street prices moved moderately higher... WALL STREET

NY silver up limit

New York, Nov. 6.—COMEX SILVER... NY silver up limit

ES BUSINESS

ES BUSINESS... ES BUSINESS

ES BUSINESS

ES BUSINESS... ES BUSINESS

ES BUSINESS

ES BUSINESS... ES BUSINESS

Eurobond prices (midday indicators)

Table of Eurobond prices (midday indicators) listing various countries and bond types.

Foreign Exchange

Foreign exchanges had quite a busy day yesterday, with the main feature again the weakness of the dollar... FOREIGN EXCHANGE

Discount market

The Bank of England yesterday intervened to offset a large shortage in the discount market by buying Treasury bills from discount houses and banks... DISCOUNT MARKET

Recent Issues

Table of recent issues listing company names and issue details.

The Times Share Index

Table of The Times Share Index showing various indices and their values.

Spot Position of Sterling

Table of Spot Position of Sterling showing exchange rates for various currencies.

Forward Levels

Table of Forward Levels showing forward exchange rates.

ES BUSINESS

ES BUSINESS... ES BUSINESS

RAND SELECTION CORPORATION LIMITED (Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa) DECLARATION OF FINAL DIVIDEND NO. 115

CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT table showing financial data for 1974 and 1973.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET table showing financial data for 1974 and 1973.

Table of Money Market Rates showing various rates and percentages.

Table of Recent Issues showing company names and issue details.

Table of The Times Share Index showing various indices and their values.

Table of Spot Position of Sterling showing exchange rates for various currencies.

Table of Forward Levels showing forward exchange rates.

Table of ES BUSINESS showing financial data.

Table of ES BUSINESS showing financial data.

By order of the Board... ANGLO AMERICAN CORPORATION OF SOUTH AFRICA, LIMITED

FINANCIAL NEWS

London & County is worse off than ever - £15m first-half loss

By Our Financial Staff

An interim report to depositors in London & County Finance, the "fringe" bank... collapsed almost a year ago, shows that it lost some £15m in the first six months of the current year.

London & County through its chain of in-store banking departments... put up some £20m between them, the whole of which has now been written off in the accounts of the individual consortium members.

This, and the deterioration revealed in the interim report, which contains further provisions of £17m against advances and investments following the collapse in stock market and property values, demonstrates that the position, both for London & County as well as the other "fringe" banks receiving support, is far more serious than anticipated at first.

London & County state that further, unquantified losses might be incurred which have not yet been provided for.

Overseas

Hesse bank overhaul

Frankfurt, Nov 7.—The Landesbank of Hesse (Hesaba) will make a series of constitutional changes from January 1 to divide more clearly administrative and executive functions and to bring in more management expertise.

The changes will follow the resignation of its former president, Wilhelm Hanel, last December, write-offs in 1973 estimated at about DM800m (about £133m), and Relaba's withdrawal from the Geneva Banking Co of Credit International.

The management board, comprising equal representation from the State of Hesse, savings bank association and employees, will be charged for alternating two-year terms by the State Finance Minister and a savings bank representative.—Reuter.

Krupp sees steel market easing

Krupp, the German steel works, sees future prospects as unfavourable, with a declining sales volume, higher material costs and increased wage bills, reports Reuter from Bochum.

However, the interim report said its profits position in the first nine months of this year developed favourably.

The company said that sales budgets of the major German steel processors indicate that no upturn in domestic demand can be expected short-term. Export demand is falling to more normal levels with a downturn in incoming orders expected in the fourth quarter. Krupp will reduce production correspondingly in the coming months in some rolled-steel plants.

TOYOTA MOTOR Interim profit after tax 5.819m yen (6,379m) on sales of 783,200m yen (718,500m).

WASHINGTON INV Gross income for three months, £151,000 (£123,000). Earnings a share 0.2p (0.3p). Net asset value a share 29p (30p).

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

Table with multiple columns listing various financial units, insurance policies, and offshore funds, including names like 'Abacus Unit Trust', 'Hessische Bank', and 'Krupp'. It includes details such as bid/offer prices and yields.

Appointments Vacant also on pages 29 and 30

GENERAL VACANCIES

OPPORTUNITY FOR RETIRED OR PRIMAFACTE RETIRED ENGINEERING EXECUTIVES to remain in touch by locally representing a leading international association.

Write to THE SECRETARY, ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION, THE EQUIPABLE HOUSE, LYON ROAD, HARRLOW.

FOR OVERSEAS OPPORTUNITIES in various countries... International Staff Recruitment Agency, 101-103 King's Road, London SW3 4EP.

SPECTRUM THEATRE COMPANY... Write to THE SECRETARY, SPECTRUM THEATRE COMPANY, 101-103 King's Road, London SW3 4EP.

SKL CENTRE requires immediate experienced staff... Write to SKL CENTRE, 101-103 King's Road, London SW3 4EP.

MEDICAL & PHARMACEUTICAL... Write to THE SECRETARY, MEDICAL & PHARMACEUTICAL, 101-103 King's Road, London SW3 4EP.

SMART CHAUFFEUR... Write to SMART CHAUFFEUR, 101-103 King's Road, London SW3 4EP.

TRANSLATION... Write to TRANSLATION, 101-103 King's Road, London SW3 4EP.

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS... Write to THE SECRETARY, LEGAL APPOINTMENTS, 101-103 King's Road, London SW3 4EP.

FINANCE OFFICER/ACCOUNTANT... Write to THE SECRETARY, FINANCE OFFICER/ACCOUNTANT, 101-103 King's Road, London SW3 4EP.

Solicitors in Oxford... Write to THE SECRETARY, SOLICITORS IN OXFORD, 101-103 King's Road, London SW3 4EP.

LITIGATION PARTNER... Write to THE SECRETARY, LITIGATION PARTNER, 101-103 King's Road, London SW3 4EP.

LITIGATION MANAGING CLERK... Write to THE SECRETARY, LITIGATION MANAGING CLERK, 101-103 King's Road, London SW3 4EP.

SOLICITOR (ASSISTANT)... Write to THE SECRETARY, SOLICITOR (ASSISTANT), 101-103 King's Road, London SW3 4EP.

LEGAL CLERK... Write to THE SECRETARY, LEGAL CLERK, 101-103 King's Road, London SW3 4EP.

MALEWORKERS, SOLICITORS... Write to THE SECRETARY, MALEWORKERS, SOLICITORS, 101-103 King's Road, London SW3 4EP.

ALANGATE LEGAL... Write to THE SECRETARY, ALANGATE LEGAL, 101-103 King's Road, London SW3 4EP.

WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL... Write to THE SECRETARY, WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL, 101-103 King's Road, London SW3 4EP.

SALES AND MARKETING... Write to THE SECRETARY, SALES AND MARKETING, 101-103 King's Road, London SW3 4EP.

REPRESENTATIVE... Write to THE SECRETARY, REPRESENTATIVE, 101-103 King's Road, London SW3 4EP.

PUBLIC AND EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS... Write to THE SECRETARY, PUBLIC AND EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS, 101-103 King's Road, London SW3 4EP.

READING SCHOOL BURSAR... Write to THE SECRETARY, READING SCHOOL BURSAR, 101-103 King's Road, London SW3 4EP.

WANTED IN JANUARY... Write to THE SECRETARY, WANTED IN JANUARY, 101-103 King's Road, London SW3 4EP.

PUBLIC AND EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS... Write to THE SECRETARY, PUBLIC AND EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS, 101-103 King's Road, London SW3 4EP.

SHERBORNE SCHOOL FOR GIRLS BURSAR... Write to THE SECRETARY, SHERBORNE SCHOOL FOR GIRLS BURSAR, 101-103 King's Road, London SW3 4EP.

The Governors invite applications for appointment as Bursar on 1st January, 1975, or as soon as possible thereafter.

Association of Public Health Inspectors EXAMINATIONS OFFICER... Write to THE SECRETARY, ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS, 101-103 King's Road, London SW3 4EP.

Highly paid posts in North Africa... Write to THE SECRETARY, HIGHLY PAID POSTS IN NORTH AFRICA, 101-103 King's Road, London SW3 4EP.

EFL TEACHERS... Write to THE SECRETARY, EFL TEACHERS, 101-103 King's Road, London SW3 4EP.

Interviews in London now... Write to THE SECRETARY, INTERVIEWS IN LONDON NOW, 101-103 King's Road, London SW3 4EP.

CENTRAL ELECTRICITY GENERATING BOARD

Research Officers - Chemists

Applications are invited from Physical or Organic Chemists for vacancies in the Chemistry Branch of the Midlands Region Scientific Services Department.

Applicants should be Graduates and should have interests in the fields of Aqueous Corrosion and/or Electro-Chemistry, or Surface Chemistry, or General Water Chemistry and Water Treatment.

The successful candidates will be required to join teams working on (i) Corrosion/Surface Deposition problems in the boilers, turbines and condensers of modern power plant, and (ii) Problems in raw water treatment to very high purity and disposal of effluents and other waste materials.

The work will combine fundamental laboratory studies and related field investigations on power plant.

The posts are based on the new Regional Scientific Services Centre located on the Ratcliffe on Soar Power Station site about ten miles south west of Nottingham. The situation is rural with easy access to Nottingham, Loughborough, Leicester and M1.

Salary between £1,800 and £3,350 plus £90 p.a. plus Threshold payments depending on age, qualifications and experience. N.J.B. Conditions of service.

Apply in writing, giving details of age and experience to the Personnel Manager, Central Electricity Generating Board, Haslucks Green Road, Quaking, Solihull, West Midlands B90 4PD by 15 November 1974, and quoting vacancy number T625/74 MR.

Midlands Region

PUBLIC AND EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

The University of Manchester DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL PRACTICE MANCHESTER FAMILY PRACTITIONER COMMITTEE

Applications are invited to share practice of approximately 3,000 patients by the University House Health Centre which is administered by the University.

Partner after short trial period, pending that we are open minded about salary. The two successful candidates will be appointed to the University staff as lecturers in the Department of General Practice.

LITIGATION MANAGING CLERK... Write to THE SECRETARY, LITIGATION MANAGING CLERK, 101-103 King's Road, London SW3 4EP.

SOLICITOR (ASSISTANT)... Write to THE SECRETARY, SOLICITOR (ASSISTANT), 101-103 King's Road, London SW3 4EP.

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Interviews in London now... Write to THE SECRETARY, INTERVIEWS IN LONDON NOW, 101-103 King's Road, London SW3 4EP.

Imperial War Museum

2 Research Assistants

One post is in the Department of Document which holds important collections of German economic, industrial and military documents from 1920 to 1945, records of the Major War Crimes Trials, and personal papers covering many aspects of war since 1914.

Candidates must have a degree and a good understanding of the German language, and preferably a knowledge of recent German history.

The second post is in the Department of Information Retrieval which is responsible for cataloguing and indexing the Museum's collections. A current project is the computerisation of the catalogue and technical records of the film collection and duties involve viewing, cataloguing, and indexing film, particularly unedited record footage.

Candidates must have a degree in history, a related discipline together with a sound knowledge of 20th century history.

Starting salary between £2,170 and £3,250 according to qualifications and experience. Non-contributory pension scheme.

For full details and an application form (to be returned by 27 November, 1974) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Ltd, Basingstoke, Hants. RG21 1JB, or telephone BASINGSTOKE 29222 ext. 500 (or for 2 hour answering service, LONDON 01-83 1992). Please quote G(A)/382.

LISTER INSTITUTE OF PREVENTIVE MEDICINE (University of London) Elstree, Herts.

PRODUCTION MANAGER

The Lister Institute requires a Manager to take charge of the production of human use of bacterial vaccines, virus vaccines and therapeutic sera at its Elstree Laboratories. Applicants must have considerable experience in the organisation and day to day running of a unit producing biological materials; and the person appointed will play a major part in planning and implementing a considerable expansion in production.

The salary will be in accordance with experience and qualifications and will be appropriate to a post of this seniority. Superannuation under F.S.S.U.

Applications to: THE SECRETARY, LISTER INSTITUTE OF PREVENTIVE MEDICINE, ELSTREE, HERTFORDSHIRE.

Just graduated and interested in Aviation?

Britain's largest and most progressive Reinsurance Company with international business connections throughout the world requires a young male graduate to train as an Aviation Underwriting Assistant.

Excellent salary. Low interest mortgage facilities close to Liverpool Street and Moorgate Stations. Free life assurance and pension schemes. Offices.

Please write giving details to: Mrs. L. B. Gunn, Personnel Superintendent, The Mercantile & General Reinsurance Co. Ltd., Moorfields House, Moorfields, London EC2Y 9AL

M&G

ACCOUNTANCY ACCOUNTANT FOR ADHABI... Write to THE SECRETARY, ACCOUNTANCY ACCOUNTANT FOR ADHABI, 101-103 King's Road, London SW3 4EP.

required by Hotel Group... Write to THE SECRETARY, ACCOUNTANCY ACCOUNTANT FOR ADHABI, 101-103 King's Road, London SW3 4EP.

ACCOUNTANCY ACCOUNTANT FOR ADHABI... Write to THE SECRETARY, ACCOUNTANCY ACCOUNTANT FOR ADHABI, 101-103 King's Road, London SW3 4EP.







سكزا من الأصل

# £4,000 plus Appointments

## THE CIVIL SERVICE

### Administrative Appointments for Honours Graduates

Applications are invited from men and women under 28 (on 1st August, 1975) who have, or expect to get in 1975, a degree with honours in any subject. There will be up to 250 vacancies for:

- Administration Trainees in the Home Civil Service
- Administrative grades in the Diplomatic Service
- M. Inspectors of Taxes

There will probably be 1 or 2 vacancies for candidates under 26 as

#### House of Lords Clerks, House of Commons Clerks

These posts are demanding and responsible. Departments of the Home Civil Service are concerned with most aspects of national life, and an administrator may be engaged in policy and planning, parliamentary legislation, or the detailed management of an executive programme. Diplomats represent this country and its interests, spending about two-thirds of their careers abroad. Tax Inspectors, who receive intensive training, negotiate the tax liability of businesses of all kinds, and run their own tax offices. House of Lords Clerks are responsible for advising members on parliamentary practice and procedure (including the judicial procedure of the House). House of Commons Clerks advise the Speaker and Members on the practice and procedure of the House and, under the Speaker's authority, ensure that business is properly transacted.

Selection is by written qualifying tests and further tests and interviews conducted by the Civil Service Commission.

Salary and Prospects: The minimum salary for an Administration Trainee in London is around £2,400 but starting salary could be up to £3,150. Promotion prospects to over £3,500 within two to four years and—with further training—to Principal on a salary of £4,900 to over £6,350. More senior posts carry salaries of £9,000 and above. Initial salary and prospects are similar in other Services.

For full details and an application form (to be returned by 4 December, 1974), write to the Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 1JB, or telephone BASINGSTOKE 29222 ext. 500 (or, for 24 hour answering service, LONDON 01-639 1992). Please quote 11/75/09

### THAMES VALLEY POLICE AUTHORITY

#### PROSECUTING SOLICITORS DEPARTMENT

##### Assistant Prosecuting Solicitor (2 posts)

(Salary within the Range £3,690-£4,860 plus Threshold allowance)

Applicants must be Solicitors with, or wishing to obtain, experience of prosecuting work in the Criminal Courts.

The office is divided into Sections, each headed by a Principal Assistant with supporting staff. Duties include interesting and often complex advice, preparation in important criminal matters, and frequent attendance at Magistrates' Courts to conduct prosecutions.

Essential User Car Allowance. Assistance with car purchase, removal and lodging allowances in approved cases.

Offices at Kidlington (about 5 miles north of Oxford) serving Courts in Berks, Bucks. and Oxon.

Application forms obtainable from

THE CLERK of the THAMES VALLEY POLICE AUTHORITY, Shire Hall, Reading, Berkshire, Tel. Reading 55981 Ext. 25

Closing date 15th November, 1974.

### THE BRITISH NON-FERROUS METALS FEDERATION MANAGER-STATISTICAL DEPARTMENT

The British Non-Ferrous Metals Federation intends to appoint a Manager for its Statistical Department. The post, which is a senior appointment, is based in Birmingham, but will involve a certain amount of travelling, both in the United Kingdom and abroad.

#### RESPONSIBILITIES

- All statistical services covering the United Kingdom and overseas, including the international organisations for which the Federation provides secretarial and statistical services.
- The promotion and development of the work of the Department.
- Preparation of reports on current metal statistics and analyses of trends.
- Marketing of statistics and services on a world wide basis.
- Preparation of authoritative press statements and articles on metal statistics and trends for publication in the world's press.

#### AGE

Candidates should preferably be aged between 30-40.

#### QUALIFICATIONS

A degree in Economics with statistics.

#### EXPERIENCE

Several years experience of compilation and analysis of statistics at a high level, and of administering a Statistical Department.

#### SALARY

Around £7,000, together with other fringe benefits.

#### APPLICATIONS

Applications should be sent to, and further details may be obtained from:

The Secretary  
The British Non-Ferrous Metals Federation  
Crest House, 7 Highfield Road  
Birmingham B15 3ED

### THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

4 BURLINGTON ROAD, DUBLIN 4, IRELAND

Applications are invited from

#### ECONOMISTS OR SOCIOLOGISTS

of established research ability to undertake economic and social research related to Irish conditions. The Institute is particularly anxious to initiate research in the following areas (though applications relating to other areas will also be considered):

- economic forecasting
- foreign trade and investment
- income distribution
- industrial relations and labour economics
- poverty studies
- social administration and social policy

All research is undertaken with a view to publication. Appointments would normally be made on an initial contract of five years, which might be renewed. However, secondments to ESRI for a period of not less than two years would be considered.

Appointments may be made in the grades of:

- Research Professor (salary range: £6,286-£6,802)
- Senior Research Officer (salary range: £5,153-£5,927)
- Research Officer (salary range: £3,420-£4,719)

The Superannuation Scheme is similar to FSSU.

Application forms, which should be completed and returned as soon as possible, may be obtained from THE DIRECTOR, THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE, 4 BURLINGTON ROAD, DUBLIN 4, IRELAND.

### DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION

Social Science Research Council is a government-funded organization, operating a Royal Charter, which promotes, supports and carries out research in the social sciences. It also makes grants to students for postgraduate training in this field and gives advice and information about the social sciences. The Council has five main units of its own and is financing currently about 500 programmes and projects in universities, polytechnics, and independent research institutes.

Director of Administration will be the head of the Council's Establishments and Finance Division. The Council employs some 200 staff and has an annual budget of £10 million. The Director of Administration will report direct to the Secretary of the Council. Apart from his or her establishments and finance responsibilities, he or she is expected to contribute to the general development of SSRC policy and to represent the Council both nationally and internationally.

A successful candidate is likely to have a good honours degree, preferably in the social sciences, and will require the managerial skills necessary to participate in the administration of an organization of this size. These skills may have been acquired in public service, the higher education system, industry or elsewhere. More important formal qualifications are an awareness of the potential and limitations of the social sciences and an understanding both of the academic world and the process of government.

Salary is on the scale £7,110-£8,160 p.a. (including London Weighting) plus threshold payments. The SSRC has its own non-contributory pension scheme and is a recognized institution for purposes of FSSU.

Applications stating age, qualifications, experience and the names of up to three referees should reach Dr. Michael James, Secretary Social Science Research Council, 10, Gower House, High Holborn, London, W.C.1, from whom further particulars are available, 2 November, 1974.

### Chief Executive

British Sugar Corporation Limited wishes to appoint a successor to the present Chief Executive who will be retiring. The offices are located in Peterborough and London. There are 17 factories employing several thousands and sales are over £100m annually.

Candidates, preferably aged 40/50, should already be holding a senior directorship in industry. The main requirement is to manage a large enterprise successfully, but political skills will also be required. Experience in negotiation in international business, particularly Europe, would be an advantage.

Starting salary subject to negotiation, around £15,000-£17,500, together with appropriate benefits.

Please apply in strict confidence, quoting reference number 1604, to John Stokes, Clive & Stokes, 14 Bolton Street, London W1Y 8JL.

Clive & Stokes  
Appointments & Personnel Consultants

### Consolidated Gold Fields Limited

#### Chartered Secretary

Consolidated Gold Fields Limited, a London-based mining finance company with world-wide interests, has a vacancy on its Secretariat for an experienced Chartered Secretary. In addition to undertaking duties for the parent company, the successful applicant will be appointed Secretary of a UK-based associated quoted company with mining interests in Southern Africa. The position offers an initial salary in the region of £4,500 per annum (inclusive of 'threshold' payment), plus a discretionary bonus paid twice yearly and a non-contributory pension scheme. Free lunches are supplied in our staff restaurant.

Please telephone or write for an application form to:

THE PERSONNEL OFFICER  
(RECRUITMENT & TRAINING)  
Consolidated Gold Fields Limited  
49 MOORGATE,  
LONDON, EC2R 6BQ

### WEST SUSSEX COUNTY SECRETARY'S DEPARTMENT

#### ASSISTANT SOLICITOR (newly admitted considered)

Salary £4,062 to £4,722 per annum plus threshold allowance currently £167.44 per annum. The post is an interesting one in the section dealing with roads and transportation including footpaths and commons, and the holder will be responsible to an assistant county secretary.

Casual-user car allowance. Mortgage facilities and general removal and resettlement expenses. Some housing available to rent or purchase.

Application forms from the County Secretary, County Hall, Chichester, PO19 1RQ. Completed forms returnable not later than 20th November. If telephoning, ask for extension 207 or 241.

### PUBLICITY AND MARKETING

#### Manpower and Training Services £6,550-£7,600

This key appointment, combining two different functions, offers the all-round professional unusual scope to practise advanced marketing, public relations and information techniques; to conceive and implement promotional policies; and to make a creative contribution to the successful development of a comprehensive new manpower service.

The Manpower Services Commission was established in January, 1974. Its members are drawn from industry, trade unions, local government and education, and it is responsible for managing and co-ordinating the employment and training services previously run by the Department of Employment. In your first capacity, as Head of Information for the Commission, you will have a distinctive and creative part to play in the development of all its publicity programmes—both those directly promoting services and those designed to create an effective overall presentation of policies. An original and imaginative approach to PR problems will be welcomed in both these areas.

The Commission incorporates two executive arms, the Employment Service Agency and the Training Services Agency, each with its own marketing and publicity teams, and you will help to harmonise their publicity needs and public images.

#### DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT

You will also become Head of Marketing for the Training Services Agency. This second role will offer you the opportunity to develop and control detailed marketing and publicity campaigns aimed at encouraging employers and members of the public to make full use of the Agency's progressive training services and to improve standards of training throughout the country; this will benefit businesses and individuals alike.

The post clearly calls for someone of great professional versatility, who combines proven expertise in information, PR, marketing and market research with a feel for policy and organisational ability. Above all, you must have a capacity for understanding the requirements of presenting a large nationwide organisation at national, regional, and local levels.

Salary, starting above £6,550 will rise to over £7,600, and there is a non-contributory pension scheme. The post is presently based in London.

For full details and an application form (to be returned by 28th November 1974) write to the Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants, RG21 1JB, or telephone BASINGSTOKE 29222 ext 500 (or, for 24 hour answering service, LONDON 01-639 1992). Please quote G/8761/2.

### GWENT COUNTY COUNCIL

#### Assistant County Clerk

£6,225-£6,291 p.a.

Candidates are invited from Solicitors with Local Government experience. The Solicitor appointed to Post will be primarily concerned to lead a team of staff responsible for servicing a group of Major Committees, including Education and Social Services, and should have wide relevant experience at a senior level in Government. This post carries responsibility for co-ordination.

Applications to be submitted by November 18, 1974.

Application forms and further information (where applicable) for the above vacant posts can be obtained from the Personnel Officer, Gwent County Council, County House, Cwmbran, Gwent NP4 2XH, to be returned by the date shown to the same address.

### EDUCATION OFFICER, TEACHER TRAINING

SCHOOL BROADCASTING COUNCIL requires an EDUCATION OFFICER, TEACHER TRAINING. He will be responsible on a national basis for liaison work with service and in-service teacher training bodies, based London. Duties entail major responsibility for the effective use of school broadcasting in the training of teachers. Some promotional, advisory and supervisory work of the BBC's Education Department will also be involved. Wide knowledge of contemporary education, particularly of current developments in in-service and in-service teacher training, and of the needs of educational institutions essential. Some experience of the creation of audio-visual learning or training materials desirable.

Salary: £4,229 p.a. (may be higher if qualifications exceptional) + £138/£222 to £2,050 p.a. plus £150 p.a. non-day working allowance.

Write or telephone immediately for application form and details (addressed envelope) to: Applications Officer, BBC, London, W1A 1AA. Tel: 01-230 4469. Ext. 2619. quoting ref. 74/G.1109/75B.

Remember that every Tuesday and Friday The Times will be publishing the

## £4,000 plus Appointments Page

For details, or to book your advertisement, please ring

The Times Appointments Team

01-278 9161

or our Manchester Office 061-834 1234 or our Glasgow Office 041-248 5969

### PRODUCT MANAGER

A large food marketing company require a Product Manager to take charge of their range of fast moving national brands of canned meats. The position requires a person aged about 30 with experience of marketing, advertising and research to develop sales of the company's products in line with long term company objectives. Location is in London, salary negotiable plus other large company benefits.

Apply to The Marketing Manager, LOVELL & CHRISTMAS LIMITED, 1 West Smithfield, London EC1 9LA 01-248 6431

### CROYDON SOLICITOR

A young and expanding firm need an additional advocate to maintain and develop its Magistrates' Court side of the practice. Help is also required in the Litigation department. Salary negotiable around £3,500-£4,000. Interested solicitors with about twelve months' post qualification experience are invited to apply in writing.

C. J. ANDERSON & COMPANY  
17-21 George St.  
Croydon CR0 1LA.

## APPOINTMENTS VACANT also on pages 26 and 30

### WEST MIDLANDS COUNTY COUNCIL

#### Help to Develop the West Midlands Economy

Applications are invited for the following post within the Financial and Economic Planning Division of the County Council's Department for the West Midlands, and putting forward policies to develop the local and regional economy.

#### PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT ECONOMIST P.82 (1-5) (£4,722-£5,277)

Following the promotion of the previous holder of this post, a vacancy exists for an economist (or person of related discipline) to take a major part in the work of the Economic Development Team. The person appointed should be a graduate and have several years' experience (preferably in local government or a regional body) in economic analysis, be familiar with official UK statistical sources, and possess initiative and original ideas on urban and regional problems.

An assisted Car Purchase Scheme is available and resettlement expenses (to a maximum of £550) will be given in appropriate cases. Subsistence/car allowances are also paid and generous leave is provided. Threshold is additional to salaries quoted.

Further details and application forms are obtainable from the County Personnel Officer, West Midlands County Council, 11 Summer Lane, Birmingham B15 3TP. 021-236 5760. Closing date: 19th November 1974.





